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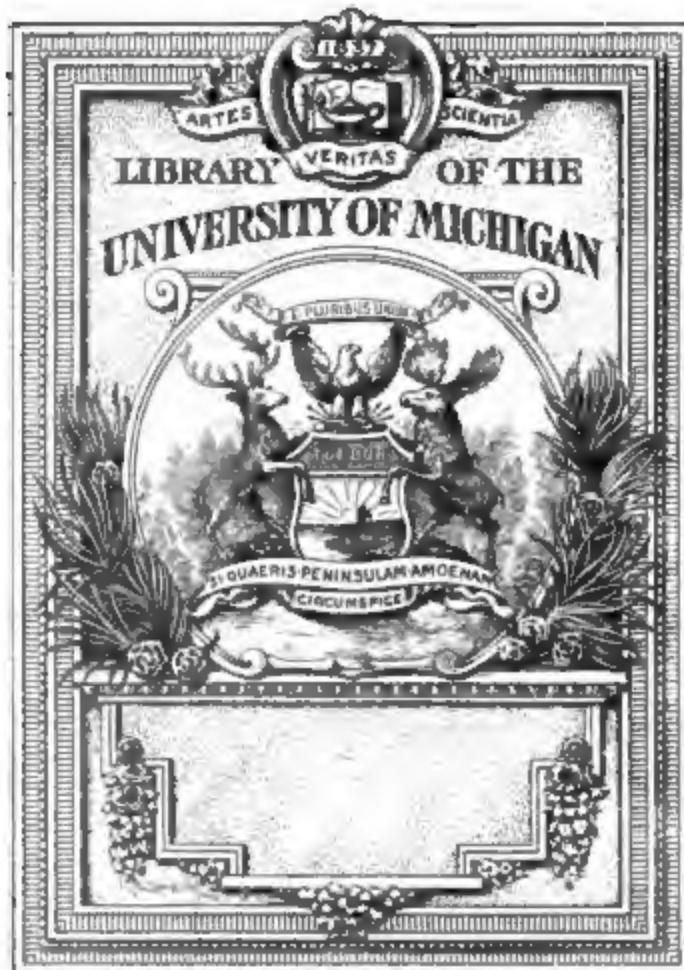
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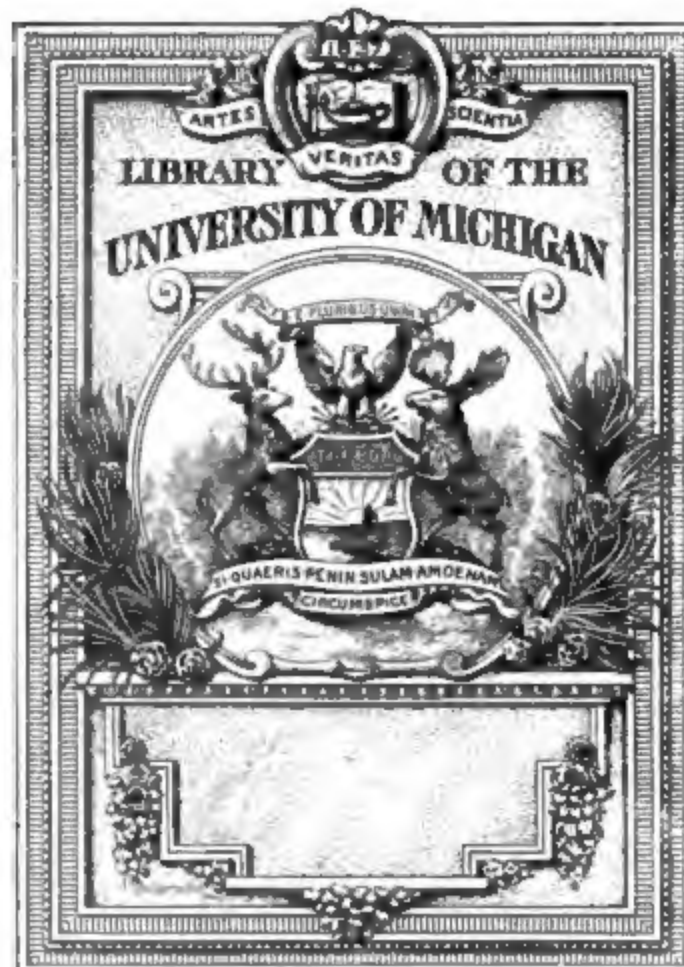
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REVIEW OF PUBLIC EVENTS AT HOME

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FOR THE YEAR

1896

NEW SERIES

LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.

39 PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON

NEW YORK AND BOMBAY

SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, HAMILTON, KENT, & CO., LTD.; HOULSTON & SONS

SMITH, ELDER, & CO.; J. AND E. BUMPUS, LTD.; H. SOTHERAN & CO.

BICKERS & SON; J. WHELDON & CO.; R. WASHBOURNE

1897

ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY PRESS.

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It would be necessary to go back many years in the history of Great Britain to find a year which opened so inauspiciously for her as the present. Dark clouds foreboding storm seemed to be gathering on all sides, and each European nation was watching with undisguised satisfaction the dangers menacing the country, which obstinately refused to join in either combination to maintain the "League of Peace." In the extreme east of Asia, England had given offence to Russia by declining to coerce Japan to forego the fruits of her victory over China; and in return Russia in Eastern Europe had held aloof, if indeed she had not been hostile, in all attempts to force upon the Sultan a more humane treatment of his Armenian subjects. The concert of Europe was, indeed, maintained in the letter, but diplomacy was used by some of the Powers only to prevent others from doing anything; not one daring to move in the way it desired for fear of enabling or encouraging a movement it did not want on the part of some other Power. Worse, however, than the ill-will of the European Powers, of which the causes were not difficult to analyse nor perhaps altogether

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unreasonable, was the sudden explosion of angry feeling against Great Britain which followed upon President Cleveland's message to Congress, laying down with peremptory precision the claims of the United States Government in dealing with questions between the smallest South American Republics and European Powers. Since the settlement of the *Alabama* compensation, and the payment without demur of even "the indirect claims" arising thereon, the British Government had pursued a policy of even exaggerated goodwill towards our American kinsmen beyond the sea; and it was hoped that the fruits of this conduct would have been manifest among the nation when minor causes of friction arose between the two Governments. The event showed how baseless was this belief. In the Western and Southern States especially a feeling of bitter hostility towards Great Britain was suddenly brought into evidence, and but for the more reasonable bias of the leaders of political opinion, and the practical views of the upholders of the national credit, the Washington Government might have hurried into a position from which the only issue would have been an appeal to arms. It was admitted on all sides, even by the most hostile critics, that the attitude of the British nation through the anxious days which followed the delivery of the President's message, had been dignified as well as circumspect. The horror of a war between two nations speaking the same language and owning a common ancestry was genuine; but at the same time there was evidence of a stern determination not to forego any national or treaty rights, if it could be shown that our claims on Venezuela were honest and justified. Meanwhile the President's Boundary Commission, although not officially recognised in this country, was welcomed by a large section of the nation as possibly offering an honourable solution of a long-standing difficulty, and promising the settlement of a dispute of which the actual rights were shrouded in hopeless obscurity.

Scarcely had the country recovered from the first shock of President Cleveland's message, when the news arrived that a British force of 500 or 600 men, recruited in Matabeleland, had crossed the Transvaal frontier and threatened Johannesburg, the chief mining centre of the Boer Republic. The pretext for their raid upon the territory of a friendly and dependent, but absolutely free, State, was that the foreign immigrants into the Transvaal, numbering 60,000, were denied all the rights and privileges of self-government by the Boers, who numbered scarcely 15,000. Dr. Jameson, moved by some impulse or misled by others less single-minded than himself, had started on this mad errand, believing that he would be welcomed at Johannesburg before his action could be disavowed from London. Mr. Chamberlain, however, was cast in a different mould to some of his predecessors at the Colonial Office. Without waiting to discuss the situation with his

colleagues in the Cabinet, he sent peremptory orders to the High Commissioner at the Cape, Sir Hercules Robinson, to Mr. Rhodes the Cape Premier, and to Dr. Jameson, commanding the expedition to return. At the same time he opened negotiations with President Krüger, and directed Sir H. Robinson to proceed to Pretoria with plenary powers to bring about a pacific arrangement with the Transvaal Government. Mr. Chamberlain's course of action, his promptness and his straightforwardness, were fully recognised, but his difficulties were still further increased when it became known that on hearing of the defeat of Dr. Jameson's raid the German Emperor had sent a congratulatory message to President Krüger, in which he practically recognised the independence of the Transvaal, of which Great Britain claimed the suzerainty under the Convention of 1884.

The Emperor's telegram raised a tempest of feeling throughout Great Britain, which neither President Cleveland's message nor Dr. Jameson's wild expedition had seriously stirred, for it was felt that if the idea underlying the words was acted upon, the situation would become most critical. Mr. Chamberlain at once took up the challenge thus thrown down by the German Emperor. He announced that the British Government would maintain the Convention of 1884, which reserved the control of the foreign relations of the Boers. Two regiments of troops were ordered to South Africa, and this was followed after a short interval by the mobilisation of a flying squadron with a rapidity which astonished the world.

In all this confusion the natural jealousy of continental nations, in spite of their treaties of alliance, was the most obvious fact. All nations were equally pleased to find England perplexed and threatened with trouble, but when it came to supporting one another in attacking her, there was a sudden revival of reserve and hesitation. The Russian Government received the overtures of Germany with surprising coldness, considering the bitter tone of the Russian newspapers when speaking of England. France, although delighted to find the most important member of the Triple Alliance at variance with Great Britain, could not bring herself to support Germany in any foreign policy; whilst Austria-Hungary, irritated by the unceasing efforts of Great Britain to re-open the Eastern question in forcing new reforms or obligations upon the Sultan, would not venture to support Germany in a conflict which could bring no advantage but possibly serious damage to the dual monarchy. Finally, in the United States, public opinion by one of those sudden shiftings, instead of ranging itself on the side of Germany, openly expressed sympathy with the resolute attitude of the British Government. A letter from Queen Victoria to her grandson, however, was said to have really opened the German Emperor's eyes to the effect of his unlucky despatch. Anticipating, apparently, that the British

Government would at once adopt his recognition of the Transvaal as an independent State, he invited Portugal with complete assurance and some haughtiness to permit the landing of German troops in Delagoa Bay on their way to Pretoria, and it was only when he at last recognised that any interference of Germany in South Africa would be the signal for war that the Government newspapers were instructed to explain away the incident as best they might, and to assure the world that the matter had been ridiculously exaggerated by the English press.

So far as English foreign politics were concerned, the only obvious outcome of the German threat was the revival of a slightly better feeling with France. Advantage was taken by Lord Salisbury of this passing mood to settle the outstanding dispute about the buffer State on the Mekong, which was to have been held by China, and was intended to separate English and French possessions in that district. France it was agreed was to keep the eastern, whilst we occupied the western bank of the river. As, however, the country would require the expenditure of much capital before it became productive, the practical benefits acquired by either country were somewhat problematical. Siam, defined as the drainage basin of the Meinam, was to pass under a condominium, the two Powers agreeing to maintain her independence and to permit no third party to interfere; and Mongsin, which had been previously occupied by us, was to be at once surrendered to France. Any trading advantages which either Power might obtain from China were to be equally enjoyed by France and England. Lord Salisbury at the same time brought to a conclusion another open question in West Africa, by agreeing to a delimitation of the Niger territory, and further assented to a new convention regulating the legal position of the Regency of Tunis.

Throughout this critical time public men of all parties had maintained a judicious silence, and the press of all shades of opinion had with rare unanimity supported the policy of the Government, whilst carefully abstaining from language which might give offence. This tone was especially remarkable in all comments on the policy of the United States Government. The results of this reticence were promptly visible in the readiness with which the more weighty organs of public opinion in New York and the New England States recognised the folly of precipitating a conflict between two members of the same family. In the absence of any intimation of what was passing between the two Governments, the Washington correspondent of the *Times* (Mr. G. W. Smalley) did more than any one to allay irritation on both sides of the Atlantic, and to foster among the people of both countries a desire for friendly arbitration. By slow degrees the excitement of the Jingo party in America subsided, and the disastrous results of the violent

fluctuations of Stock Exchange securities brought home to a still larger body the community in financial affairs which existed between the two nations.

Mr. A. J. Balfour was the first minister to break silence, speaking on successive days at Glasgow (Jan. 14) and Manchester (Jan. 15), and on both occasions used all his persuasiveness to quiet public feeling. For his Scotch hearers he contrasted the actual isolation of Great Britain with the isolation of a hundred years previously, when one section at least of the people openly sympathised with the enemies of England. "If," continued Mr. Balfour, "which heaven forbid, the time should come when England should again find herself fighting for very life against the forces arrayed against her, then I prophesy that no such bitter divisions will be found in our ranks; but that Scotchmen and Englishmen and Irishmen of all parties—whether they inhabit this island or whether they form part of that great colonial empire which is our boast and our pride—will be found to forget the party differences which bulk so largely in times of national repose, and that they will join harmoniously, unitedly, in one undivided host to meet every danger by which the empire can be threatened."

This reliance upon the imperial instincts of our Colonies was fully justified by the spontaneous assurances of goodwill and support which had been received from Canada, Australia, and even from the Cape of Good Hope, where the chief of the Afrikaner party had bluntly declared that the first German shot fired against England would be followed by the acquisition of all the German colonies in South Africa.

Mr. Balfour's speech at Manchester was a more exhaustive review of foreign affairs, on the ground that topics of domestic legislation had been recently forced aside by the current of events. To those who knew what frightful suffering the reopening of the Eastern question would entail on many nations it would seem no light thing that the European concert had succeeded thus far in preventing the reopening of that question. With sorrow, however, he admitted that the European concert had not been so successful in inducing the Sultan to adopt reforms without which the reopening of that question could not be indefinitely deferred. He could not express any opinion upon the recent operations in the Transvaal; but passing to the internal and external policy of the Transvaal State, actuated, as they were, by friendly feeling to that State, it was quite impossible that matters would ever be satisfactory so long as the system of government there was founded upon so inequitable a basis as that which allowed no share in the government to those who formed the large majority and provided the greater proportion of taxes. It was of the highest importance that long-promised reforms should be carried out without unnecessary delay. With regard to the external relations of the Transvaal—whether suzerainty or not

—that State was subject to the control of this country, which would admit no foreign interference. After paying a tribute to Mr. Chamberlain's statesmanship, Mr. Balfour turned to the controversy with America as to the Venezuelan boundary dispute. "The British Government," he said, "had always concurred in the Monroe doctrine as expressed by President Monroe some seventy years ago, and we did not desire to acquire any territory which did not belong to us. All the documents bearing upon the case were being compiled by the Foreign Office and would be laid before Parliament, and it would be hard indeed if the common sense of the Anglo-Saxon race was not able to settle any dispute without war. To us the idea of a war with the United States carried with it something of the unnatural horror of a civil war. In addition to our imperial patriotism we have also an Anglo-Saxon patriotism which embraced the whole of that great race which had done so much in every branch of that human effort which had produced free institutions and free communities. Unhappily that view did not seem as yet to be shared by large sections of English-speaking people on the other side of the Atlantic; but it could not but be that they would come to feel that we had a common duty to fulfil among the nations of the world. The time would come when some statesman of authority (more fortunate than even President Monroe) would lay down the doctrine that between English-speaking peoples war is impossible." He did not believe that public opinion on either side of the Atlantic or in Europe would permit the outbreak of war, and he would not have them believe that he looked forward to dark days for the empire. We desired no man's territory; our own work within our own sphere was sufficient for us, and would tax our energies to the utmost. But, he added, there was never a time in recent history when the British Empire was a better fighting machine than at present, although he did not think it would be called on to act as such.

The Home Secretary, Sir M. White-Ridley, at Newcastle (Jan. 14) spoke in the same tone with reference to the fruitless efforts made to save the Armenians, and to the impolicy of risking a European war by separating from the concert of Europe. There might, however, have been another reason for the hesitation of Lord Salisbury in pushing matters at the Porte to extremes. Doubtless a certain section of generous-minded Englishmen had been deeply moved by the tales of Turkish cruelty and Armenian suffering, but the great mass of the people was either ignorant or sceptical of the accounts published; and it could not be said that behind the English Government there was that strong current of public indignation which would have justified a more independent attitude towards the Sultan's misrule.

Public attention, in fact, was almost wholly absorbed by the events passing in South Africa, and the complications growing

out of the suspected intrigues of the Chartered Company. The distrust which at the outset had centred on the Transvaal Government was now transferred to the local managers of the Chartered Company, and Mr. Cecil Rhodes' sudden resignation of the Premiership of the Cape Ministry had confirmed the doubts which were entertained of his public disavowal of Dr. Jameson's raid. Mr. Chamberlain's conduct of affairs had been generally approved, and his courage and decision at a critical moment had shown that he possessed the most essential qualities of statesmanship. It was, therefore, with great interest that his first speech in public was awaited. An opportunity was afforded him by a banquet given to the new Governor of Queensland, Lord Carrington (Jan. 21), at which the Colonial Secretary presided and made several short speeches of considerable importance, deprecating the excessive interest concentrated on the Transvaal, where he hoped the recollection of recent sensational events would soon pass away. These events, he said, would form the subject of judicial inquiry there as well as in this country, and he assumed that with the fair-mindedness which distinguished them his countrymen would wait to hear both the indictment and the defence before they pronounced a judgment. He might add that there seemed to him a tendency to attach too much importance to sensational occurrences which passed away and left little trace behind them, and not enough to the general course of colonial policy and progress. We had no doubt made mistakes, but, after all, this remained:—

“That we alone among the nations of the earth have been able to establish and to maintain colonies under different conditions in all parts of the world, that we have maintained them to their own advantage and to ours, and that we have secured not only the loyal attachment of all British subjects, but the general good will of the races, whether they be native or whether they be European, that have thus come under the British flag.”

Mr. Chamberlain, moreover, accepted as cheerfully the compliment of Mr. Foster, the leader of the Canadian House of Commons, who had said by way of honouring the United Kingdom that in the recent crisis it stood “splendidly isolated.” Mr. Chamberlain showed in his speech that this “splendid isolation” had attracted instead of repelling the loyalty of the great colonies, although furnishing a rock of offence to the great continental Powers.

The leaders of the Opposition patriotically abstained from saying anything in public which could embarrass the Government in any negotiations which might be in progress. Mr. Bryce, moreover, who had recently returned from South Africa, took occasion at Aberdeen (Jan. 21) to give his cordial support to the Government. In relation to the Transvaal he approved of all that Mr. Chamberlain had done and was attempting. He

recalled the clause in the constitution of that republic which declared the country stood open to immigration, and insisted that in face of such an invitation the Boer Government could not expect that an immigrant population far outnumbering their own would remain for ever content to be excluded from electoral privileges. With regard to the German Emperor's telegram he said that Germany had no more right [to interfere in the Transvaal than she had in Afghanistan. He wondered the more at the unfriendly act, because Germany or Prussia was almost the only Power with which England never had a war. On Lord Salisbury's policy in Eastern Europe he spoke with more reserve, although he expressed his deep sympathy with Armenian wrongs. He suggested that the European Powers should be asked if they would regard active interference in the affairs of Turkey as a *casus belli*. If they did not, guarantees for the protection of the Armenians might be taken in Smyrna or in the Red Sea, or, as the only alternative, Russia might be made the delegate of Europe to enforce the better government of the Christian populations of Turkey.

The campaign in Ashanti, which had been successfully carried through without bloodshed, was destined to be clouded by a loss which fell upon the English royal family. Prince Henry of Battenberg, the husband of the Queen's youngest daughter, the Princess Beatrice, had claimed to take his part in the campaign as a colonel in the British Army. Throughout the advance from the coast he had shared all the hardships of the other officers, and had rendered important service to the general in command, especially when negotiating with the native chiefs. To them he represented in a way the great White Queen whose determination to put an end to the cruelties practised at Kumassi and elsewhere had become known. The Prince's imposing figure and martial bearing were well adapted to impress the mind of the half-civilised negro chiefs, and on more than one occasion lukewarm allies were won completely over by his tact and address. About thirty miles short of Kumassi Prince Henry, having ventured into the forest after sundown, was struck down by malarial fever, and although he reached the coast alive and was at once put on board ship he never rallied, and before the *Blonde* had passed Sierra Leone he expired (Jan. 20) at sea. The news on its arrival was at first hardly credited, but when confirmed drew from all quarters of the empire, as well as from America, expressions of sincere sympathy, showing how thoroughly the Queen in the course of her long reign had made loyalty popular, and affectionate regard for the royal family common to all English-speaking peoples.

The speeches of public men to which most attention was paid were those of Mr. Chamberlain (Jan. 25), at Birmingham, and of Sir Henry Fowler (Jan. 27), at Wolverhampton—both addressed to large working-class audiences of the Mid-

lands. Special interest attached to the former, as the Colonial Secretary had had no previous opportunity of speaking at length upon the policy he had pursued, or of showing how far he had followed in the footsteps of his predecessors in office. Fortunately for this country, he said, the foreign and colonial policy proceeded in a line of unbroken succession, irrespective of political party, and ministers were but the delegates of the nation as a whole. If we had been in a storm there were, he thought, signs that the clouds were breaking. Looking back at what had happened in the Venezuelan difficulty, it was evident that there had been misapprehension on both sides. At the time of Mr. Olney's despatch and of President Cleveland's message, there was a reluctant feeling on this side of the water that the American Government must be bent upon picking a quarrel, which certainly we had no intention to provoke. On the other hand, there had been a feeling among the American people that we were disposed to impugn the Monroe doctrine, to which they attached, and rightly, so much importance. Fortunately, there had been time on both sides for reflection, and that had brought a better understanding of the subject. All that was best in the United States would regard with horror a war with this country, and he was sure that the President was incapable of the wickedness of inciting two kindred nations to strife. And, on the other hand, Americans had been able to gather from the speeches of Lord Salisbury and Mr. Balfour, and from other sources, that it never entered into our heads to dispute the Monroe doctrine (which, after all, was the outcome of a suggestion from Mr. Canning), and that we did not covet an inch of American territory beyond what we already possessed. Would it were possible that, instead of wasting breath in a petty discussion about a South American boundary, we could count upon the co-operation of the United States in enforcing our thus far fruitless representations on behalf of those suffering from Turkish tyranny and fanaticism. Mr. Bryce seemed disposed to blame the present Government for inaction in this matter. But their policy had been based upon the concert of Europe, which Mr. Gladstone had insisted upon as essential to the success of any intervention. That policy had been followed by Lord Rosebery's Government, and if Mr. Bryce knew of some other specific, how came it that, when a member of that Cabinet twelve months ago, he did not secure its adoption? If there was a road by which the wished-for result might be secured, Lord Salisbury was of all men most anxious, most determined, and most fitted to find it. As to South Africa, he thought that recent lamentable occurrences, which were disavowed by every honourable man, had not interrupted the progress towards good relations between the Dutch and English races. At the present time in the British South African colonies the population of Dutch origin was much more numerous than the English element.

It was essential, therefore, that there should be mutual confidence and good-will between the two races. He had received assurances from representative bodies of the Dutch population that the policy of the Government was unanimously approved. In the Transvaal he believed matters were settling down. There was just cause for discontent in that State, in that the majority, who paid nine-tenths of taxation, had no share in the government. That was an anomaly that prudent statesmanship would remove, and this could be done, he believed, without danger to the independence of the republic. That was the problem before President Krüger, which had for England, as the paramount Power in South Africa, the deepest possible interest.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir M. Hicks-Beach, spoke at Richmond, Yorkshire (Jan. 28), in even more sanguine tones as to the Venezuela dispute, expressing his belief "that the clouds which had been hanging about would soon blow away and the blue sky would appear again." This hopeful tone did not find a complete echo at Washington, where the more sedate politicians were eager for something in the nature of a court of arbitration, to which all disputes, including the Venezuela boundary question, could be referred. In the absence of any despatches passing between the two Governments, it was assumed that Lord Salisbury was reluctant to meet the views of the amateur diplomatists on both sides of the Atlantic, who had adopted the idea that arbitration was not only a specific against war, but that it could be resorted to even when the disputants were not agreed as to the subjects to be submitted to the court. There was in reality no ground for the suspicion that Lord Salisbury was taking a line which had for its object anything but the honourable settlement of a dispute which had grown in importance chiefly because diplomatists on one side had been impracticable, and on the other negligent. Over and over again the British agents in Central America had pressed upon the Foreign and Colonial Offices the need of determining the boundaries of Venezuela and British Honduras; but a matter which was complicated by the extent of the original Spanish occupation, the treaty rights of Holland and the value of each successive cession of the disputed territory, had been allowed to drag on for years, the points at issue becoming more obscure as they receded into the distant past.

It was, perhaps, with something like a sense of relief that Sir Henry Fowler brought back public attention to more domestic matters, and especially to those points of home policy which the Conservative Ministry was returned to carry out. Speaking to his constituents at Wolverhampton (Jan. 27), he boldly faced the situation and admitted that the most practical inference from the general election of the previous year was that "you cannot legislate in advance of political opinion," as the Liberals had done in proposing measures with no hope of

passing them and no justification in a popular demand. He described the actual attitude of the Unionist party as one of great expectations. "Landlords, farmers, agricultural labourers, merchants, manufacturers, artisans, brewers, temperance reformers, the friends and the foes of national education, the taxpayers and the ratepayers, the bishops and the clergy, all sorts and conditions of men who placed the Conservative party in power are anticipating perhaps with some anxiety, the millennium which is about to dawn." Sir H. Fowler next referred to the danger to constitutional government arising from the formation of parliamentary groups. Under our party system, when each party represented about half the nation, the sense of responsibility was preserved, whilst the experience of other nations, notably of France, where the custom of parliamentary groups prevailed, showed that ministerial crises were constantly recurring, and the continuity of a policy was seriously endangered. With regard to the domestic legislation of the coming session, Sir H. Fowler declared that the Liberal party would maintain that any relief to the ratepayers in the rural districts must be equally extended to the ratepayers in the towns, that the standard and efficiency of our national education must not be lowered, that technical education must be liberally extended, that school boards must not be crippled nor the great compromise of 1870 disturbed, and that further grants of public money to institutions under private management must be accompanied by some popular representative control. In conclusion, he prophesied that precedence would be given by the Government over any party programme to proposals as to the national defences.

Whilst, however, something approaching unanimity might be looked for in discussing the necessity of an increased Navy, the bishops and the clergy who had shown such activity during the general election were not disposed to see their demands discussed. Of these the most important were those dealing with the education question; and the additional assistance to Church or voluntary schools which had been the cry of the clergy of all denominations. Schemes of various sorts were put forward, the most plausible being those which aimed only at placing the non-board schools of a district on an equal footing with the board schools; or else by the creation of a common school fund in certain areas, which, supplemented by a State grant, would entail economy in administration, complete subordination to the Education Department in Whitehall, and stimulate voluntary schools—Church, Wesleyan, Roman Catholic or Jewish—to healthy competition.

Lord Cranborne, M.P., who from the outset constituted himself the champion of the voluntary schools, admitted that the question of their maintenance had won many seats for the Conservatives. Parents had indicated their right to determine the religious teaching of their children, and although the right

of the State was that every child should receive an adequate secular education, it was easy to conceive and even to argue that the State had a direct advantage in seeing all children religiously brought up. The danger however was that in the board schools the secular duties of the State were alone recognised, and it was only reasonable that those who valued religious instruction should insist upon voluntary schools being placed at no disadvantage when compared with board schools.

According to a statement made by the Archbishop of Canterbury (Jan. 15), there were 316 school board districts in England and Wales in which no religious instruction was given, and fifty districts in which there were no religious observances of any kind. Upwards of 2,000,000*l.* per annum was raised for the support of voluntary schools, of which the buildings, etc., had cost 15,000,000*l.*, and it was estimated that the total capitalised value of the voluntary aid given to schools had been 73,000,000*l.* In reply to the allegation of the secular party that the clergy were trying to lower the standard of education in the board schools, the archbishop in their name declared that they wished for further instruction, better appliances and more comprehensive tuition; they were in favour also of continuation schools and secondary schools, so that bright scholars might be given every facility to acquire instruction.

These were doubtless the views of the more moderate spokesmen of the clerical party: but there were not wanting those who demanded as a right direct State aid to Church schools, unaccompanied by any conditions or restrictions except those imposed by the clergy themselves. On the other hand, there were extremists of the opposite party who maintained that it was no duty of either taxpayers or ratepayers to contribute to the support of purely voluntary schools; and that if they were to exist it should be only at the charge of those interested in their preservation. The more moderate of the Liberal party, whilst in theory they gave the preference to board schools over Church schools, were ready to see the latter improved, and their basis broadened, especially in districts where school boards had not been established. They favoured, however, rather rate aid than State aid, and claimed that any additional grants should be accompanied by an extension of the managing committee, which should ensure to all ratepayers a voice in the management of the schools. In the event, however, of State aid being given in the form of a direct grant, they claimed that the teaching given in the voluntary schools should be placed on the standard of that adopted in board schools, that the teachers should be appointed either by or with the approval of the Education Department in Whitehall; that the religious instruction should not be left wholly in the hands of the vicar or rector of the parish, or his delegate.

The views of the opponents of the denominational system, and

the probable lines which the opposition to its extension would follow, were ably summarised by the ex-Home Secretary, Mr. Asquith, when presiding at a meeting of the National Education League (Jan. 30). He stated that their object was not to attack the educational policy of her Majesty's Government, for the simple reason that they had not the faintest idea what that policy was. Their attitude was simply one of defence, for they were perfectly content to abide by the settlement of 1870. He would also disclaim any spirit of hostility to the voluntary schools, which formed a large majority of the elementary schools of the country, and had in attendance within their walls a majority, though not a large one, of the children. "They have been erected and maintained at a very considerable expense of money and by a large devotion of time and zeal for which no tribute of gratitude and of praise could be too high. The educational work that has been done, and that is being done to-day, by our voluntary schools is work with which it is almost impossible for us as a nation to dispense. I will say further that this is not, in our view, in the least degree a sectarian question. It is not a question between church and chapel; it is not a question between the Established Church on the one side and of Nonconformists on the other."

The main question, Mr. Asquith continued, was this: Would the demand which was now put forward, if conceded, lead to a raising or lowering of the standard of educational efficiency in this country? Would the grant of this new subsidy to the denominational schools, resulting, as it must, not only in the maintenance, but in the extension of the system, and freed, as it was proposed to be freed, from any further safeguards in the way either of central or local control—would the grant of this new subsidy tend to the best interests of our educational system? Examining the statement that "an intolerable strain" was put, under the present system, upon the voluntary schools, Mr. Asquith said: "Out of nearly 20,000 elementary schools in England and Wales 14,600 are what are called voluntary or denominational schools. Their average attendance is nearly 2,500,000 children, and their annual income is 4,750,000*l.*; and of the annual income, if you include the fee grant, no less than 3,660,000*l.* comes from public sources. In other words, the annual cost of these schools which are exposed to 'an intolerable strain' comes in the proportion of three to one out of the money raised from the general taxation of the country. That is the existing state of things: and now let me ask you to compare it for a moment with the state of things which existed before 1870, when the Elementary Education Act was passed. I take the year 1869, as the last year under the old system; and at that time the annual average cost of educating a child in the voluntary school was 25*s.* 5*d.*; and the voluntary subscriptions of the supporters of that school amounted on an average to about 7*s.*—that is to say, between one-third and one-quarter of

the cost of educating the child. What is the state of things now, after twenty-five years of 'intolerable strain'? The cost of the child has risen from 25s. to 38s.; and the subscription has fallen from 7s. to 6s. 6d. In other words, the extra cost of education has risen nearly 50 per cent., while the voluntary contributions of the supporters of those schools have diminished about 8 per cent. What is the inference? To any one who understands figures it is this—that more than the whole of the extra annual cost of educating the children of these schools has been met out of the funds contributed by the taxpayers of this country."

Mr. Forster, the author of the great act of 1870, was often quoted as having said that school boards were to supplement and not to supplant the voluntary system. He did say so, and, to give effect to his words, he allowed the voluntary schools a year of grace—a year during which they were enabled, as far as their resources allowed, and with a very considerable subvention from imperial funds towards the building expenses, to put up as many schools as they liked. But the framers of the act never contemplated and never intended, after that year of grace had expired, an indefinite extension of the voluntary system in the future. Two essential requirements, Mr. Asquith thought, must be complied with as the condition of any further help from the State to the denominational schools. In the first place, there must be satisfactory guarantees given that the money contributed was to be spent, not in relieving subscribers, but in improving the educational standard, that it was to be spent in the levelling up of the teaching in the denominational schools, and not with the indirect object, by illegitimate competition, of levelling down the standard of the board schools. So far they had not received the slenderest assurances on that point. A second condition of further pecuniary support from the State must be the recognition of the principle of local control. In conclusion, Mr. Asquith said he acknowledged the inalienable right, and indeed the duty, of every English parent to have his children brought up in the faith he professed. What he could not admit was the right of the parent to have this duty discharged for him at the public cost, nor did he believe such a claim would commend itself to the common sense of the English people.

The approach of the parliamentary session was, as usual, heralded by increased activity amongst political leaders, who on platforms and in public meetings could speak more freely than when subjected to the rules of parliamentary debate. Amongst the most important of these utterances was Lord Salisbury's speech to the Nonconformist Unionist Association (Jan. 31), when he openly admitted the failure of his efforts to defend the Armenians against the Sultan. He began by touching upon the affairs of the Transvaal, but only in so far as they offered an object lesson in Home Rule, such as

might have occurred in Ireland had she obtained similar autonomy. On the state of the negotiations with President Krüger, which were left in the hands of Mr. Chamberlain, the Foreign Minister said nothing, and his brief allusion to the misunderstanding with the United States was to the effect that he had supported the Monroe doctrine in the strongest and most distinct terms ; and he added further that if the Monroe doctrine meant President Monroe's doctrine, there were no more convinced supporters than he and his colleagues. Lord Salisbury's contention in his famous despatch to Mr. Olney had been that in the Venezuela dispute the Monroe doctrine did not come in and had no bearing on it. His opponents, however, whenever they wished to lower Lord Salisbury in public opinion, had persistently asserted that he had attacked the doctrine itself. On the Armenian question Lord Salisbury showed with but slight disguise the fruitlessness of the policy he had proclaimed with so much emphasis at the Guildhall banquet early in the previous autumn, when he threatened the Sultan with all kinds of penalties should he prove recalcitrant. On that occasion Lord Salisbury said :—

“ Supposing the Sultan will not give these reforms, what is to follow ? Well, the first answer I should give is, that above all treaties and above all combinations of external Powers, the nature of things, if you please, or the providence of God, if you please to put it so, has determined that persistent and constant misgovernment must lead the Government which follows it to its doom ; and while I readily admit that it is quite possible for the Sultan of Turkey, if he will, to govern all his subjects with justice and in peace, he is not exempt more than any other potentate from the law that injustice will bring the highest on earth to ruin.”

Four months had elapsed since those words had been uttered, during which time massacres and outrages had been carried on systematically, with the cognisance if not with the absolute approval of the Sultan and his Government. The concert of Europe which was to be invoked on behalf of the suffering Christian populations had been proved powerless to obtain the least cessation of persecution, and the Sultan, wilily profiting by the jealousies and fears of the great Powers, had pursued his way, whilst they and their ambassadors were presenting harmless protests in which no unity of purpose was discernible. Approaching the subject with more than usual caution, Lord Salisbury in his speech complained that during the last few weeks he had seen in every kind of language, from that of gentle rebuke to that of fierce denunciation, the statement that her Majesty's Government had bound themselves in honour to succour the Armenians—to go to war with the Sultan to force him to govern the Armenians well. As to this allegation the Premier said :—

“ If those who make that statement would refer to the

obligations which they believe us to have undertaken, they would see that their judgment went too far. All that there is is an article in the Berlin Treaty under which the six Powers agree, not to any outside person but to each other, that if the Sultan promulgates certain reforms they will watch over the execution of those reforms. That is the whole. Now, of course, you must interpret international treaties as you would interpret covenants between man and man, and the meaning literally interpreted of the language used I do not think any one would deny differs widely from that of undertaking a war to compel the Sultan to govern better than he does. The other document quoted is the Cyprus Convention. How people should quote that convention I cannot imagine, because there is not the slightest trace in it of an undertaking upon the part of England that she would interfere physically or materially on behalf of the oppressed subjects of the Sultan. I speak thus with some earnestness, because it so happens that I drew the Cyprus Convention myself, and I helped in drawing the sixty-first article of the Berlin Treaty, and, therefore, I have a very vivid recollection of the fact. Nothing would have induced me to pledge my country—the taxpayers of my country, and all who spend and are spent in its behalf—to an undertaking so desperate as that of compelling the Sultan, by force of arms, to govern well a country which otherwise he was not disposed to govern well. I am convinced that such an undertaking would have been impossible, and I certainly never would have counselled that the signature of an ambassador should have been put to it.”

Having described the horrors in Armenia during the months of November and December previous as comparable in intensity only to those perpetrated by Genghis Khan and Tamerlane, Lord Salisbury added :—

“ I know there are many who say this was done by the Sultan and his Government for set purpose, and I freely admit that among those who say it are men who have the opportunity of judging. I can only give you my own opinion, as it is formed upon evidence, for what it is worth. My opinion is that the Sultan’s Government is weak, wretched, impotent, powerless ; but it is a dream to imagine that he deliberately ordered all those cruelties to be perpetrated. There is no ground, in my judgment, for thinking so. It was the race faction and the creed faction, driven to the highest point in their corruptest and most horrible form, which brought down upon the wretched Armenians those terrible sufferings and horrors.”

With regard to the non-interference of England, Lord Salisbury said :—

“ You are deceiving yourselves if you imagine that the arm of England, long as it is, could have done anything to mitigate that sorrow or remedy that misgovernment. Nothing but the military occupation of a Christian Power could have done it,

and England does not possess the power of military occupation at that distance. England by herself could not have assumed the military occupation of these provinces. Perhaps you will ask me why Europe did not do it. I am not bound to answer for Europe, but I think I know what the feelings of the great European Powers are. I speak it with all hesitation, I trust I do not misrepresent them, but their opinion is—none of them wish to occupy the country; I say that confidently, none of them—but their opinion is that there is only one power in that country left—evil as it is—and that is the prestige of the Sultan's name; that with patience, and allowing the storm of fanaticism to pass away—with patience—the Sultan can, to some extent, re-establish order, and allow industry and commerce their usual and secure course."

This, after the strong remonstrance of our ambassador at the Porte, after the passionate outbursts in the English press, and the hope aroused by the Armenian sympathisers, was a damaging and humiliating confession, which the supporters of the Government in the press could not receive in patience. It was asserted that in a hundred different ways we had encouraged the Armenians to revolt, and that we had not the courage to interfere to save the victims of our platonic sympathy. Lord Salisbury, it was admitted, was only carrying out the policy initiated by Lord Rosebery and continued by Lord Kimberley, but this did not relieve Lord Salisbury of his responsibility; still less did it sustain his claim to being a strong Foreign Minister, in whose hands the country could leave its policy without misgiving.

The attitude taken up by Russia in these negotiations doubtless led to the isolation of the English ambassador at Constantinople. On more than one occasion the policy of that country had been thwarted by our Government. In 1876 the Russians, by the Treaty of San Stefano, had Turkey at their feet. We had not only interfered and forced them to give up the fruit of their hard-earned victory, but we had aroused the suspicions of Europe by the seizure of Cyprus, whilst adding to our responsibilities in especially guaranteeing the good behaviour of the Sultan. Since that time in Afghanistan and in China we had exerted all our power to keep Russia in check, and to prevent her from finding a satisfactory harbour in the extreme east of Asia. Added to this, Russia as the ally of France was bound to hold herself aloof from any friendly co-operation with the nation which refused to abandon Egypt, and the hostility produced in the French mind by our continued occupation of the valley of the Nile more than outweighed any sympathy with the sufferings of the Christian populations of Turkey. Of the other great Powers, Germany cynically proclaimed her indifference to the woes of the Armenians; Austria-Hungary held firmly to the doctrine of the maintenance of the Turkish empire, and Italy was too much hampered by

her alliances, and too much exhausted by party strifes and foolish expeditions, to give any active support to the country with which she might have desired to co-operate.

Although Lord Salisbury made no reference to this phase of the question, Mr. A. J. Balfour, whose position gave him greater freedom, seemed in his speech at Bristol (Feb. 3) to desire to intimate the new course of English policy, at all events so far as concerned Russia, in the Far East. He said he would say nothing of the horrors, of which we had all read, and on which our feelings could not be adequately expressed. He wished to point out the mistake made by many people in supposing that Russia, but for the traditional policy of this country, would have policed parts of Asiatic Turkey and prevented the perpetration of these unparalleled horrors. Russia had never been willing to undertake this duty. England had not prevented her. In the whole matter England was not to blame. Whatever responsibility lay with other Powers, diplomatic correspondence to be laid before Parliament would show that the condemnation for events discrediting humanity did not lie at our door. Turkey for the last two years had been squandering her most valuable asset, *viz.*, the belief of the English people that the preservation of her empire was good for humanity at large. It was full of omen for her future that she had done so much to alienate one of her oldest and firmest friends. Mr. Balfour then spoke of the complex nature of our colonial empire, the government of which, under democratic institutions, was a matter of huge difficulty. His hope lay in the fact that we did not govern on selfish lines. Other nations might enjoy with us the benefits of British freedom.

"The British Empire," he said, "consists by no means of the simple organism of the United Kingdom; but it has now subordinate to it communities having popular constitutions as free as ours; it has subordinate to it almost every form of government which the mind of man can conceive. My hope for the future is largely founded on the fact that the British Empire, whatever else it is, is not a selfish empire. If we have acquired sovereignty over huge tracts of the earth's surface, at all events we rule those tracts in no narrow or selfish spirit. Neither do I think that we are animated—I hope we are not animated—by any spirit of jealousy against other nations. So far, for example, from regarding with fear and jealousy a commercial outlet for Russia in the Pacific Ocean which should not be ice-bound half the year, I should welcome such a result as a distinct advance in this far-reaching region, and I am convinced, not merely that Russia would gain by it—that the world generally would gain by it—but that British commerce and enterprise would be the gainers. Let us lay to heart this doctrine, that what is good for one is not necessarily bad for the other."

The other important topic to which Mr. Balfour addressed

himself was that of education, and Mr. Asquith's recent attack upon the proposals to lighten the pressure upon voluntary schools. Without indicating in any way the lines of the measure which would be introduced into Parliament, Mr. Balfour recommended the opponents of such proposals to compare the distinct systems of elementary education in force in England, Scotland, and Ireland. Any one would suppose, from hearing Mr. Asquith and others speak, that Parliament had laid down the principle that imperial funds in large amount were never to be given for elementary education without local control, and that in so far as rates were used for the support of elementary education it was impossible to permit denominational teaching to depart from the curriculum. Yet if the system in Ireland were examined it would be seen that the whole education there was what we in England called denominational. Denominationalism was taught every day, and every day practically the cost fell upon the imperial exchequer. It was ludicrous for Mr. Asquith, who, if in power, dare not change that system in Ireland, to lay it down as an immutable principle that to support denominationalism from public funds was contrary to public policy. Under the Scotch system, again, the school board might use the rates for the support of schools where denominational education was given; but Mr. Asquith and Mr. Morley, the one a Scotch member and the other a would-be Scotch member, spoke as if such an arrangement outraged common-sense. It was sometimes implied that religious denominational teaching was a fad of Anglicans or Roman Catholics. Yet the Scotch, who were neither, unanimously held that the national system of education ought to include the denominational teaching of religion. Under the Scotch system, although the school board might have provided places for all children of the parish, yet if there were thirty children of a different denomination from the majority they had the right to claim a separate school to be erected and supported by public funds. Though he did not advocate the adoption in England of either the Scotch or Irish systems, it should be remembered that England was the only part of the United Kingdom where the desire to give religious denominational teaching was regarded as a crime. When the act of 1870 was passed it was intended that the denominational schools, by which till then the Church and other religious bodies had carried on the whole elementary education of the country, should still form the main provision for that purpose. Mr. Asquith contended that these efforts of the religious bodies were now relaxed. He pointed to the fact that the contributions per child had fallen since 1870. That was true to a slight extent, but, on the other hand, the national contributions of churchmen had more than doubled. They had spent since 1870 more than 22,000,000*l.* on elementary education, and their subscriptions, irrespective of those of other bodies, exceeded

600,000*l.* a year. He would not speak of rights, but it would be a cruel hardship to throw on the ratepayers the burden which would have to be borne if the voluntary schools were destroyed. It would also be a hardship on parents to deprive them of the chance of carrying out education, except under the system which allowed religious teaching on only one day of the week. Moreover, the position of ratepayers, who, as in London, paid exorbitant school board rates and must still subsidise their voluntary schools as well, was extremely hard. The Government with its large majority would be criminal if it did nothing to save that general education set up in 1870. Those who desired to preserve religious education must clearly understand that the Unionist party alone was prepared to do justice to the elementary schools.

The arrival of Mr. Cecil Rhodes in London (Feb. 5) to "face the music"—to use his own expression—engaged public attention more than questions of education or the woes of Armenia. Rumours of a great speech to be made at a specially summoned meeting of the shareholders of the Chartered Company of South Africa were industriously spread abroad, and a vindication of his conduct was anxiously expected. After a stay of four days, however, in the course of which Mr. Rhodes had interviews with Mr. Chamberlain and the directors of the Chartered Company, it was announced that he had left London and was hurrying back to Rhodesia, where the troubled state of affairs demanded his immediate presence. Various interpretations were placed upon this sudden flight without having broken silence on the grave charges brought against him by his detractors, but the most reasonable opinion was that he had withdrawn by the advice of Mr. Chamberlain, in order that nothing might be said in public which might aggravate a situation which was still critical.

Little else of political importance occurred during the earlier weeks of the year. The election judges had been busily engaged in the trial of election petitions, of which few were sustained; the only Unionist unseated being the member for Southampton. No fresh elections could be held until after Parliament had received the judges' reports, and consequently no test could be applied to the state of feeling in the constituencies. In two metropolitan districts, however, vacancies had occurred from other causes, and in both South St. Pancras and Brixton the Unionist candidates had been returned by even larger majorities than their predecessors at the general election. In each case there was a larger poll than on the previous occasion, and at Brixton the Radical vote showed an actual falling off in the numbers polled.

On the eve of the meeting of Parliament, Mr. Chamberlain took the unusual step of publishing in the *London Gazette* (Feb. 7) the text of a despatch to the High Commissioner for South Africa, dated February 4, reviewing the crisis in the Transvaal,

in which the Secretary for the Colonies stated the causes, as he understood them, and explained the policy of her Majesty's Government.

After briefly reviewing the history of the republic from 1881, and the circumstances that had led to the settlement of a large Uitlander population, Mr. Chamberlain pointed out the anomalies of the political situation created by the exclusive policy and legislation of the Boer Government. This policy and legislation aroused among the Uitlanders a feeling of intense irritation, which had not been lessened by the manner in which remonstrances were received. Whatever might be the truth as to the occurrences of the past few weeks, the Uitlander leaders had previously kept within the limits of constitutional agitation; but their success in this direction was not encouraging. In the manifesto issued by the National Union on December 27 the complaints of the Uitlanders were set out in detail, and very plain language was used concerning the Administration, but no hint was given of an intention to resort to force.

"I mention these matters," continued Mr. Chamberlain, "because they seem to me to prove that, whatever may have been the secret schemes of individuals, the agitation, as the great majority of the Uitlanders understood it, and to which they gave their sympathy, was one proceeding on the only lines on which an agitation against an organised government of military strength can proceed with any hope of success—that is to say, it was an open and above-board agitation, prosecuted without violence and within the lines of the Constitution."

Her Majesty's Government had watched the progress of events with careful attention, but there was no ground for active intervention. The Uitlanders and their organs had always deprecated the introduction into the dispute of what was called in South Africa the "imperial factor." To have intervened uninvited seemed impracticable, and calculated only to be injurious to the prospects of a peaceful and satisfactory settlement. There were, indeed, rumours from time to time that violent measures were in contemplation; but these rumours were continually falsified by the event, so that, in the long run, the opinion gained ground that the Uitlanders did not mean to risk a collision with the Government.

Such was the position of affairs when Mr. Chamberlain first learned the grave fact of Dr. Jameson's invasion.

"It need hardly be stated," the Colonial Secretary wrote, "that neither you (Sir H. Robinson) nor her Majesty's Government had up to the last moment any reason which would lead us to anticipate that this invasion was likely to take place. It has, I believe, been suggested in some quarters that the concentration of police at Mafeking and Pitsani Potlogo, on the western borders of the republic, should have sufficed to indicate to us that some aggressive movement was intended

against the republic; but this view is founded on a misapprehension of the circumstances."

In a lengthy passage Mr. Chamberlain then explained the presence of a comparatively large body of troops at Pitsani. It arose entirely from the decision of her Majesty's Government to hand over part of the Bechuana Protectorate to the administration of the Chartered Company, in consequence of the settlement with Khama and the other chiefs living in that country.

"By that arrangement [with Khama] so much of the Bechuanaland Protectorate as was not reserved to the three chiefs above mentioned was to pass under the direct administration of the British South Africa Company, which was to become the border authority all round the territory. It consequently became unnecessary to retain the services of the Bechuanaland Border Police. On the other hand, the company represented that this increase in the area of the territory wherein they were to become responsible for the preservation of order demanded a corresponding increase in the strength of their police, and they expressed themselves anxious to obtain the services of so many of the Bechuanaland Border Police as were not about to be transferred to the Cape Colony, or were not to be discharged. I assented to this proposal, and the Bechuanaland Police, scattered throughout the Veldt, were called into Mafeking, their headquarters, for the purpose of being either paid off or inspected by Dr. Jameson, the company's administrator, with a view to his selecting such of them as might be willing to join the company's service, and as he might be willing to accept. So far as my information went, the numerous details attending the transfer of men and stores to the company were being discussed and settled in a routine manner, and there was nothing in the detailed correspondence to arouse any suspicion."

Mr. Chamberlain went on to add that in his belief the Transvaal Government were as ignorant, at this time, of any intention on Dr. Jameson's part to invade the South African Republic.

Turning, then, to a consideration of the situation at Johannesburg and the position of the Uitlanders, Mr. Chamberlain added that he had hoped that it might have been possible for Sir Hercules, before he left Pretoria, to obtain some definite assurances from President Krüger as to the character of the reforms which his honour had promised to the Uitlanders, and as to the time at which they might be granted.

"It seemed to me, I confess, somewhat hard that the suspicion, or even the certainty, that a handful of the wealthier inhabitants were more or less implicated in a treasonable conspiracy, should be regarded as a reason for delaying the discussion of the question of granting to the vast majority of industrious and peaceable inhabitants concessions which seem

urgently called for by considerations alike of justice and expediency."

In the next place it was necessary, Mr. Chamberlain proceeded, that he should state clearly and unequivocally what was the position which her Majesty's Government claimed to hold toward the Government of the South African Republic.

"Since the Convention of 1884 her Majesty's Government have recognised the South African Republic as a free and independent Government as regards all its internal affairs not touched by that Convention; but as regards its external relations it is subject to the control of this country in accordance with the provisions of Article IV. There is no reason to anticipate that any foreign State will dispute our rights, but it is necessary to state clearly that her Majesty's Government intend to maintain them in their integrity. As regards the internal affairs of the republic, I may observe that, independently of any rights of intervention in particular matters which may arise out of the articles of the Convention of 1884, Great Britain is justified, in the interests of South Africa as a whole, as well as of the peace and stability of the South African Republic, in tendering its friendly counsels as regards the newcomers, who are mainly British subjects."

The Colonial Secretary went on to enumerate the Uitlanders' grievances, which he characterised as "formidable in length and serious in quality." These grievances may be summarised as dealing with naturalisation and the franchise (as to which Mr. Chamberlain says he agreed with Lord Ripon in thinking that the case would be met by the grant of the franchise after a period of five years' residence, with a modification of the oath of allegiance so as to remove what were felt to be objectionable features in it), education, finance, the right of public meeting, State monopolies as regarded mining requisites, the supply of native labour at the Rand, and the improvement in railway administration. As to the police force, Mr. Chamberlain said:—

"The difficulties of the reforming party in the Volksraad and the Executive appear to arise from the strong prejudice of the more conservative of the burghers against employing Uitlanders, which would not be unworthy of sympathy were it not for the patent fact that a population like that of the burghers cannot possibly be expected to furnish adequate material from which to select candidates for this department of the public service; and to make difficulties about appointing foreigners amounts, under the circumstances, to a denial to the Uitlander community of what are among the primary rights which the governed may demand of those who undertake to govern them."

The redress of the Uitlanders' grievances could not, he admitted, be accomplished without extensive changes in the law, the necessity for which might not be apparent to the more conservative section of the burghers, who might not have

mastered the facts of the situation created by the growth of the large Uitlander community within the republic.

Mr. Chamberlain recognised the fact that the Uitlanders occupied a limited area only, and that the conditions of the rest of the country were entirely different; having regard to this, the Government had carefully considered whether it might not be possible to meet the complaints of the Uitlanders without in any way endangering the stability of the institutions of the republic, or interfering with the ordinary government of the country and the administration of its general affairs by the burghers.

“Basing myself upon the expressed desire of President Krüger to grant municipal government to Johannesburg, I suggest, for his consideration, as one way of meeting the difficulty, that the whole of the Rand district, from end to end, should be erected into something more than a municipality as that word is ordinarily understood; that, in fact, it should have a modified local autonomy, with powers of legislation on purely local questions, and subject to the veto of the President and Executive Council; and that this power of legislation should include the power of assessing and levying its own taxation, subject to the payment to the republican Government of an annual tribute of an amount to be fixed at once and revised at intervals, so as to meet the cases of a diminution or increase in the mining industry.

“As regards judicial matters in such a scheme, the Rand, like the Eastern provinces and the Kimberley district of the Cape Colony, might have a superior court of its own. It would, of course, be a feature of this scheme that the autonomous body should have the control of its civil police, its public education, its mine management, and all other matters affecting its internal economy and well-being. The central government would be entitled to maintain all reasonable safeguards against the fomenting of a revolutionary movement, or storage of arms for treasonable purposes within the district.

“Those living in and there enjoying a share in the government of the autonomous district would not, in my view, be entitled to a voice in the general Legislature, or the Central Executive or the presidential election. The burghers would thus be relieved of a haunting fear to many of them—although I believe an unfounded one—that the first use which the enfranchised new-comers would make of their privileges would be to upset the republican form of government. Relieved of this apprehension, I should suppose that there would be many of them who would refuse to deal with the grievances of the comparatively few Uitlanders outside the Rand on those liberal principles which characterised the earlier legislation of the republic.”

In conclusion Mr. Chamberlain said: “A proper settlement of the questions at issue involves so many matters of detail

which could be more easily and satisfactorily settled by personal conference, that I should be glad to have the opportunity of discussing the subject with the President, if it suited his convenience and were agreeable to him to come to this country for the purpose. Should this be impracticable, I rely upon you to make my views known to him and to carry on the negotiations."

The tone and aim of this despatch were alike admirable, and it was admitted that Mr. Chamberlain had adequately expressed the general feeling of the country. Some doubts, however, were expressed as to the taste or efficacy of "the new diplomacy" which permitted the publication of an important State paper long before it could have reached its destination. This breaking with the traditions and courtesies of long established customs was on the one hand praised for its frankness, and on the other censured for its pushfulness. It remained, however, to be seen in what spirit this departure from established etiquette would be received by President Krüger, who might resent above all the suggestion of having a scheme of internal reforms forced upon him by the Government, whose intervention he and the Boers were certain to repudiate.

CHAPTER II.

Meeting of Parliament—Queen's Speech—Debate on the Address in the Lords—Amendments in the Commons—Reform of Procedure in Supply—The Evicted Irish Tenants—Mr. Clancy's Bill—The By-elections—Dr. Jameson's Arrival and Trial—Navy, Army and Civil Service Estimates—The Naval Works Bill—The Armenian Question—The Soudan Expedition—The Vote of Censure—The Benefices Bill—The Education Bill—Lord Rosebery at the Eighty Club and at the National Liberal Club—Sir William Harcourt at Bournemouth—The Radical Split—The Liberal Federation at Huddersfield—Mr. Chamberlain at the Canada Club.

THE reassembling of Parliament had been postponed to almost the latest date compatible with constitutional requirements. There were many reasons chiefly diplomatic which made this delay advisable. It was easier for a minister, or Cabinet, to carry out a policy if no questions as to its daily progress could be put; and plans were less liable to be upset if no indiscreet speeches were made by irresponsible partisans or opponents. The Ministry knew that it had a long list of deferred promises in the shape of bills to meet, but they were the leaders of an almost unparalleled majority. Nothing had occurred during the recess to seriously damage their position in the country, or to slacken the zeal of their supporters in the House.

Mr. Chamberlain had gained considerably in importance by his conduct of the Transvaal business, and if Lord Salisbury had won no laurels in the Armenian difficulty, there was nothing

to show that he was not following the policy already sketched out by Lord Rosebery. It seemed, therefore, as if the ship of State under competent officers was sailing upon summer seas, with the full and reasonable hope of bringing into port her full cargo. It was therefore without misgiving that Parliament was at length (Feb. 11) opened and the Queen's Speech read by commission—which could not be said to have erred on the score of brevity.

“ MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

“ I continue to receive from other Powers assurances of their friendly sentiments.

“ An agreement has been concluded between my Government and that of the French Republic, having for its principal object the more secure establishment of the independence of the Kingdom of Siam. A copy of it will be laid before you.

“ The commissioners for the delimitation of the frontier separating my Indian Empire and the territory of Afghanistan from the dominions of the Emperor of Russia have agreed upon a line which has been accepted by myself and by the Emperor.

“ The Government of the United States have expressed a wish to co-operate in terminating differences which have existed for many years between my Government and the Republic of Venezuela upon the boundary between that country and my Colony of British Guiana. I have expressed my sympathy with the desire to come to an equitable arrangement, and trust that further negotiation will lead to a satisfactory settlement.

“ The Sultan of Turkey has sanctioned the principal reforms in the government of the Armenian provinces, for which, in conjunction with the Emperor of Russia and the President of the French Republic, I have felt it my duty to press. I deeply regret that a fanatical outbreak on the part of a section of the Turkish population has resulted in a series of massacres in these provinces which have caused the deepest indignation in this country. Papers on these transactions will be laid before you.

“ A sudden incursion into the South African Republic by an armed force from the territories under the control of the British South Africa Company resulted in a deplorable collision with the burgher forces.

“ My ministers, at the earliest possible moment, intervened to prohibit, through the High Commissioner, this hostile action, and to warn all my subjects throughout South Africa against taking part in aid thereof.

“ The origin and circumstances of these proceedings will form the subject of a searching inquiry.

“ The President of the republic, acting in this matter with moderation and wisdom, agreed to place the prisoners in the hands of my High Commissioner, and I have undertaken to bring to trial the leaders of the expedition.

“ The conduct of the President on this occasion, and the assurances which he has voluntarily given, lead me to believe that he recognises the importance of redressing the legitimate grievances of which complaint has been made by a majority of the persons now inhabiting the Transvaal.

“ The condition of affairs in Ashanti, and the violation by the King of Kumasi of the provisions of the treaty of 1874 in regard to the suppression of human sacrifices, the freedom of trade, and the maintenance of communications, have for some years past engaged the serious attention of my Government. All endeavours to induce the King to observe his engagements having proved fruitless, it became necessary to send an armed expedition to Kumasi to enforce the conditions which he had been called upon to fulfil.

“ While I rejoice to be able to announce that the objects of the expedition have been achieved without bloodshed, I have to deplore the loss from the severities of the climate of some valuable lives, including that of my beloved son-in-law, his Royal Highness Prince Henry of Battenberg, who voluntarily placed his services at the disposal of myself and his adopted country.

“ I and my dear daughter are greatly touched and comforted in this heavy bereavement by the widespread sympathy that has been shown by my subjects throughout the empire at home and abroad.

“ I trust that the establishment of an efficient British control at Kumasi will put a stop to the barbarous customs which have hitherto prevailed there, and, by preventing the intertribal conflicts which have interfered with the development of the country, will tend to the benefit of the people, and to the interests of peace and commerce.

“ Papers on the above subjects will shortly be laid before you.

“ On the north-west frontier of my Indian Empire the measures taken last year to secure an effective control over Chitral have been successful, and the engagements entered into by the border tribes for the maintenance and protection of the road from Peshawur have been loyally carried out without molestation or disturbance.

“ GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

“ I have directed the estimates for the service of the year to be laid before you. They have been prepared with the utmost regard to economy ; but the exigencies of the time require an increased expenditure.

“ MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

“ The extension and improvement of the naval defences of the empire is the most important subject to which your efforts can be directed, and will doubtless occupy your most earnest attention.

“I regret to say that the condition of agriculture is disastrous beyond any recent experience. Measures will be laid before you, of which the object will be to mitigate the distress under which the classes labour who are engaged in that industry.

“Elementary schools under voluntary management are a valuable portion of our educational system, and their condition, which is in many places precarious, requires further assistance from public resources.

“The compensation to workmen for injuries received in the course of their ordinary employment has been under the consideration of Parliament upon several occasions. A measure dealing with the subject will be laid before you.

“Legislation will be submitted to you for the amendment of the defects which experience has shown to exist in the provisions of the various Land Acts which have been passed in respect to Ireland.

“A measure for amending and consolidating the law relating to public health in Scotland will be laid before you.

“Measures have also been prepared for the avoidance and settlement of trade disputes, for facilitating the construction of light railways in the United Kingdom, for the regulation of public companies, for checking the importation of destitute aliens, for amending the law with respect to the supply of water to the metropolis, for the institution of a Board of Agriculture in Ireland, and for amending the law of evidence.

“I commend these weighty matters to your experienced judgment, and pray that your labours may be blessed by the guidance and favour of Almighty God.”

In the House of Lords the duty of moving the address was entrusted to Lord Stanmore—a peer of Mr. Gladstone’s creation, and presumably at that time a staunch Liberal—and the seconder was the Earl of Rosslyn, a comparatively young member, who acquitted himself in a way to attract general attention and congratulation. The appearance of Lord Rosebery in his accustomed place at once put an end to rumours which had been of frequent recurrence during the recess with reference to his withdrawal from the leadership of the Opposition. That such rumours had found currency even among the Liberal party could not be denied, but they pointed rather to divided counsels than to definite action. The wiser members of the party saw full well that it could not be strengthened by publicly accentuating its differences. Lord Rosebery, in any case, was the only member of the Liberal party in the House of Lords who possessed the special qualifications necessary to the leader of a permanent minority. In addition to fluency of speech, often rising to the verge of eloquence, he was adroit in reply, ready in repartee and consistently tactful and gracious. On the present occasion, after bantering the Government on their selection of the mover of the address, and a few feeling words on the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg, Lord Rosebery passed

on to the lengthy legislative programme placed before them. He did not know how they were going to cure agricultural depression by legislation, and as to the question of the voluntary schools, he warned them that if they attempted to lower the standard of education, to interfere with the board schools, or to apply popular funds without also giving efficient popular control, they would find their policy strenuously resisted. At the same time he rejoiced that the department which had the matter in hand was under the "cool, calm and sensible control" of the Duke of Devonshire, who during the recess "had been used as a universal refrigerator. Wherever there had been any bud or blossom of hope springing up after the profuse flood of promises of the general election, and the blossom had been seen to approach the condition of fruit, the noble duke's ice-cold spray had been turned on, and no political fruit could survive that mortifying process." Lord Rosebery next attacked the policy announced in the "rather brutal paragraph" of the Queen's Speech which referred to "the importation of aliens," and he expressed surprise that Lord Salisbury, who originally declared that political refugees should be dealt with as well, now confined himself to only one branch of the subject. By a natural transition he then turned to the consideration of foreign affairs. He sharply censured Mr. Curzon for the speech in the recess in which he had predicted all manner of blessings and a complete restoration of the most amicable relations with all foreign Powers because the Government of the country had been changed from Liberal to Conservative, and he strongly resented and denied Mr. Curzon's declaration that the civil servants of the Crown had greatly rejoiced over the change. It was an unworthy imputation to make against an admirable body of men who had no connection whatever with any of our political parties. As for Ashanti, he did not know that there was any justification for a war with that country, and he complained of the agreement with regard to Siam, as we appeared to have given up a great deal, and to have got little or nothing in return. Dealing with the Transvaal, he pointed out that five paragraphs in the Queen's Speech were devoted to it, while "only one jejune paragraph was given to Armenia," and though he was willing to "lay a meagre and a tardy chaplet on the opulent shrine of the Colonial Secretary," he did it with a little reluctance, not from any ungenerous motive, but because the excessive eulogy which had been poured on Mr. Chamberlain for doing his duty conveyed a serious imputation on his predecessors in statesmanship in the country, and "might lead the distinguished foreigner to suppose that no British statesman had ever done his duty before." The raid of Dr. Jameson seemed in its inception and carrying out more worthy of the reign of Elizabeth or more suited to the days of Elizabeth than to the days of her present Majesty, yet the Government, "in their official organ, and through their official poet," had

printed, published and circulated a glowing eulogy of the raid. He had "always considered the laureate's to be an obsolete office, but he was now inclined to consider it a dangerous office as well." After bantering Lord Salisbury for having compared the Uitlanders to "his cherished Ulstermen," and Mr. Chamberlain for proposing "Home Rule for the Rand," Lord Rosebery complained of the uselessness of saying irritating things to other nations, and asked what advantage was to be gained by telling Germany that Queensland was three times the area of the German Empire. Germany might have retorted, with perfect truth, that Venezuela had an area at least five times as great as that of the United Kingdom. As to the Venezuelan difficulty, Lord Rosebery "welcomed with unfeigned joy" the assurance that a satisfactory and amicable settlement was likely to be arrived at. He rejoiced at the unbounded expression which had been given to the loyalty of Canada, and at the existence on both sides of the Atlantic of a strong and earnest movement in favour of establishing some permanent machinery for arbitration in such questions in future to which both countries could appeal without loss of dignity or honour. Finally, he attacked Lord Salisbury with considerable bitterness for his conduct with regard to Armenia. The Foreign Secretary had threatened the Sultan and produced the impression that he meant to follow up his threats by deeds, and yet he now confessed his powerlessness to do anything. All his strong language had proved to be only a delusion and a snare, and the bubble at last had burst. By the strange irony of fate it fell to the lot of Lord Salisbury who partly blew it to prick the bubble to death, and "peace with honour" had now ended in elaborate impotence. But Lord Rosebery could not believe that all had yet been done that could be done, and he made it pretty clearly apparent that on this matter he meant to do his best to quicken and improve the ministerial policy.

The Marquess of Salisbury, replying in the name of the Government, pointed out that no sympathy which we might feel for our unfortunate fellow-Christians in Armenia would justify us in facing the troubles, calamities, and slaughters of war. After a feeling reference to the death of Prince Henry, he dealt with the various foreign questions raised by Lord Rosebery, and explained that in Siam we were giving up nothing which was of any substantial value to us, while, as to Venezuela, he expressed a confident hope that the negotiations in progress would arrive at a more satisfactory settlement than could have been hoped for a little while ago. He quite agreed with Lord Rosebery's remarks on the subject of a permanent machinery for arbitration in the future. As to Eastern affairs the Government had never promised or threatened to go to war with the Sultan unless he governed better—the so-called menaces and threats were only warnings as to what might happen in case the Sultan disregarded the voice of Europe. Lord Salisbury still thought

that the Sultan was running a great risk. He taunted Lord Rosebery with having done nothing to settle the question when he was himself in office, with never having given any indication that he was ready to go to war if the demands of England were not conceded, and when he demanded reforms last May, in conjunction with France and Russia, he took no pains whatever to ascertain how far Russia and France were prepared to go. Lord Salisbury warned Lord Rosebery at the time that he was arousing the passions of creed and race, and putting the thought into the minds of the Turkish people: "If we can only get rid of these Christians we shall have peace." It was idle to threaten where they could not perform; but he was certain that if we could once remove from the minds of the great Powers the dread that we were recommending a policy which would bring a cataclysm of war upon Europe, they would give us their utmost assistance to bring about an improved state of things.

After a few words from the Duke of Argyll, the address was agreed to *nem. des.*, and ordered to be presented to her Majesty by the Lords with white staves.

In the House of Commons by precedent, if not by prescription, the debate on the address took a wider range, and as usual numerous real or imaginary grievances were ventilated before the Government was allowed to enter upon the practical business of the session. In this there was no evidence of anything in the nature of obstruction, but solely of the desire of many members to justify themselves in the eyes of their constituents. The address having been moved by Mr. G. J. Goschen (*East Grinstead, Sussex*), a son of the First Lord of the Admiralty, and seconded by Sir J. Stirling Maxwell (*College, Glasgow*), in speeches of considerable promise and ability, Sir William Harcourt (*Monmouthshire, W.*), after bantering the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Curzon, on his unfortunate promise of halcyon days at the Foreign Office on the accession to power of a strong Administration, gave a cordial support to the Government in its endeavour to settle the Venezuela question in a manner likely to satisfy the wishes of the Washington Cabinet. He heartily approved of the language of the Queen's Speech in which the United States Government was spoken of as having expressed a wish to co-operate in bringing to an end the boundary dispute with Venezuela. He strongly advocated a spirit of frank compromise in the pending negotiations, and thought that if negotiations should fail arbitration might still be invoked. With regard to the Transvaal imbroglio, Sir William Harcourt praised Mr. Chamberlain somewhat at the expense of Lord Salisbury, finding special fault with that part of the latter's speech to the Nonconformists in which he illustrated the dangers of Home Rule by the suggestion to Germany to take the part of the Transvaal in the quarrel between that country and Great Britain, and contrasted Lord Salisbury's criticism

with Mr. Chamberlain's exhortation to President Krüger to establish a Home Rule within Home Rule by erecting Johannesburg into a self-governing municipality. Here he said that the Opposition leaders gladly recognised "their own thunder." In dealing with the Armenian question, he at once remarked on the passage in the speech which appeared to recognise only Russia and France as the colleagues of England in the attempt to bring Turkey to terms, and asked what had become of Germany. He also criticised sharply the consequences of the fatal Berlin Treaty which, by the exertions of England, was substituted for the Treaty of San Stefano, and treated it as virtually securing the impunity of the Sultan of Turkey for his evil deeds.

Mr. Balfour (*Manchester, E.*), in his reply, which was as cordial as Sir William Harcourt's speech towards the Government of the United States, guarded himself against approving of any general policy of accepting arbitration in all cases of difference, since that might involve the desertion of our own fellow-citizens when we might be clearly bound to defend them. Arbitration, he said, was not a remedy that could always be applied, when the issue at stake was one going to the very roots of our national life, and so far as it might be applied, it would require very careful limitation. Neither he nor his friends had ever suggested that it was an insult to this country for the United States to institute an inquiry into the question of the boundary between British Guiana and Venezuela. The doctrine that was stated by President Monroe was of British origin, and the present Government had never seen any reason to offer criticisms upon it. So far from regarding the appointment of the commission as an insult to this country, he might tell the House that the American Government had, through their diplomatic representatives, applied for information to her Majesty's Government, who had promised to supply it. He might remind Sir William Harcourt that none of the British Governments who had considered the boundary question since 1844 had thought there was any doubt whatever that certain claims made by Venezuela were beyond the reach of controversy. Since that date we had been making honest attempts to get the question finally settled, and, for reasons not connected with English politics, each of those attempts had failed. It must not be supposed, however, that, because successive English Governments had suggested different lines at different times, this proved that the subject was involved in doubt and obscurity. Those lines were made in the interests of peace, and represented what the Government of the day considered to be less than England had a right to. No false pride or diplomatic punctilio would be allowed to stand in the way of a settlement. Still, we owed a duty to our colonies, and this country would not deserve to retain the colonies if, when we were clearly in the right, we abandoned their interests while

we had the power to defend them. This was one of the elements which could not be overlooked. It was impossible to foresee with certainty what conclusion would be arrived at by the American commission, but he was sure that every man who investigated the subject impartially must come to the conclusion that in the disputes between successive British Governments and Venezuela there never had been the slightest intention on the part of this country to violate what was the substance and essence of the Monroe doctrine. For his own part, he should rejoice if out of all this evil there should spring good fruit and if some general system of arbitration should be adopted for dealing with disputes which must from time to time arise between two great and kindred nations. Adverting to the topic of South Africa, he denied that Lord Salisbury's speech was calculated to embitter President Krüger's feelings. With regard to the position of the Chartered Company a detailed statement would be made by Mr. Chamberlain in the course of the debate, but he was able to state that the armed forces of the company would be transferred to an imperial officer without delay, and that consequently there could be no possibility of the recurrence of the recent deplorable events. Moreover, it was intended to institute an inquiry, if necessary, into the affairs of the company after the conclusion of the judicial proceedings. With regard to Armenia, he denied that we were bound to go to war with Turkey if she did not carry out the reforms. No doubt we had a right to go to war with Turkey on behalf of the Armenians, but the question was whether we were bound to do so. He contended that neither under the Berlin Treaty nor the Cyprus Convention was any such obligation imposed upon this country. Short of bringing upon themselves the responsibility of a possible European conflagration her Majesty's Government could have done no more than they had done in protecting these unhappy people. He admitted that the hopes entertained in 1878 of a speedy reform of the Turkish Empire had been bitterly disappointed, but they, at all events, did their best to give to Turkey a perennial motive which might induce Turkish statesmen to do something towards introducing good government into the provinces of the empire.

Several speeches from both sides of the House followed, but it was obvious that there was no serious intention, as more than once mooted before Parliament met, of challenging either the foreign or colonial policy of the Government.

The first amendment on the address was that of the newly elected chairman of the Irish Nationalists, Mr. Dillon (*Mayo, E.*), couched in the usual language of similar amendments for many previous years. He moved (Feb. 12) the House to represent to the Queen that the Government by refusing to propose any scheme of self-government for Ireland had aroused the deepest discontent in Ireland, and had thereby added to

the difficulties of both its foreign and colonial policy. Mr. Dillon made an extremely acrid speech, denouncing the Government for having alluded to Ireland only twice in the Queen's Speech, comparing them to the greatest possible disadvantage with the Government of the Transvaal, declaring that Lord Salisbury had insulted Ireland in that same passage of his speech to the Nonconformists in which Sir William Harcourt said that he had insulted President Krüger, and taunting England with having backed down to the United States so soon as President Cleveland showed his teeth. Further, he scoffed at the Government's proposed Irish Land Bill because it was to be a "non-contentious" measure. Mr. Dillon also condemned strongly the expenditure on the Navy, unless, he said, Ireland should get a fair share of the cash. Mr. John Redmond (*Waterford*), the leader of the Parnellites, in seconding the amendment insisted on the urgent necessity of obtaining from the Liberal leaders some declaration on the question of Home Rule. Lord Salisbury had asserted that Home Rule was dead because the Irish people themselves had abandoned it, and that declaration had thrown enormous difficulties in the way of Mr. Gerald Balfour's proposed policy of conciliation and beneficial legislation. Was Home Rule, he asked, still to be put in the front, as it stood prior to 1893, or did the Liberal leaders desire to interpose the question of the abolition of the House of Lords? He assured the House that all sections of the Irish Nationalists were absolutely united on the principle of Home Rule. They would, he hoped, adopt the view that the policy of the last few years was a failure, and would revert to the policy of taking advantage of every danger and party complication which might afford them an opportunity of pressing their demands to a successful issue.

The Secretary for Ireland, Mr. Gerald Balfour (*Leeds, Central*), gave general satisfaction to his party by the straightforward manner in which he stated that the Government could not depart from the declarations they had made on the subject of Home Rule, both in that House and at the general election. He distinctly stated last autumn that as regards the policy of Home Rule their attitude would be one of unflinching and unchangeable opposition, and, speaking for his party, he thought he might add that there was not likely to be on this subject the slightest shadow of a change. Their attitude with regard to Home Rule was determined by the merits of the case, and circumstances of difficulty and danger abroad or in the colonies would not for a moment induce them to depart from the attitude which they had taken up. Indeed, any other conduct in regard to their policy on the question of Home Rule would be unworthy of a great nation. He traversed the statement that feelings of the deepest discontent and resentment had been aroused, either by the result of the general election or by the policy of resisting Home Rule, which was a necessary conse-

quence of that election. He confessed he did not believe that Home Rule was dead. He thought it was sleeping, and that its sleep was very sound at present, and he believed that its sleep would be sound for the next four or five years.

The Parnellites, however, in order to mark the line which separated them from their Nationalist colleagues, were determined that the debate should not close without some declaration from the front Opposition bench as to the attitude of the Liberals towards Home Rule. Mr. Harrington (*Dublin Harbour*) therefore called attention to the fact that at the general election Home Rule had been carefully kept out of sight. He wished consequently to know whether the Liberal leaders had any intention of bringing the question to the front and of keeping it there.

After a night of reflection Sir W. Harcourt rose early in the following day's debate (Feb. 13) and adroitly balanced himself on the question by professing a platonic affection for Home Rule in the abstract and as part of the Liberal programme. He failed, however, to convey that he felt any very active zeal for the cause. Mr. A. J. Balfour took note of this apparent languor, and remarked that Irish Home Rule was a sleeping beauty, and that he very much doubted whether Sir William Harcourt was the fairy prince who was at all disposed to awaken her in the orthodox fashion. Mr. Balfour pointed out that the United States did not in any case found State rights on the principle of a separate nationality, and said that if they had done so, they would have had all the difficulties which beset Austria in keeping together a composite Austrian Empire. Mr. Balfour maintained that the only cure, and that a slow one, for the feeling of Irishmen against this country was to be found in the increasing knowledge of the earnest attempt of the English people to do justice, and more than justice, to the Irish people. We had given to Ireland all that we claimed for ourselves, and a knowledge of the facts could not fail, in the long run, to permeate the whole mass of English-speaking communities.

Mr. T. Healy (*Louth, N.*), who, as a dissentient Nationalist, refused to be represented by Mr. Dillon or by Mr. Redmond, delivered himself of a speech addressed to his countrymen in Ireland rather than to his colleagues at Westminster. He began by claiming that the Irish people were a race and a nation, and entitled to their rights as such. He denounced the Tories for "knifing" the Irish people in the Lords when there was no Tory majority in the Commons, and for giving them a "decent funeral" when they had a majority in the Lower Chamber. The only way for them to settle the Irish question was to erect shambles in every Irish province, and slaughter every Irish inhabitant, providing, at the same time, that there should be no "alien immigration." He did not believe that England's difficulty formed Ireland's opportunity, for England, until she was "beaten on her knees," would always be able to control Ireland;

but "no one would be loyal while they were sitting on his head," and he urged England to settle the question for her own sake.

After further discussion, Mr. Dillon's amendment was rejected by 276 against 160 votes. The majority was sufficient for all practical purposes, and showed the strength of the Opposition when supported by all sections of the Irish Nationalists; but the first division also showed that, on a critical and fundamental question, the ministerial majority was short by nearly forty votes of its full strength.

The remainder of the evening was spent in a discussion of the Transvaal raid, arising out of an amendment by Mr. Labouchere (*Northampton*), who moved that no investigation in regard to recent events in South Africa would be complete unless it extended to the financial and political action of the company since the grant of the charter. The object of the "successive raids" of the company was, he declared, to influence the Stock Exchange. The shares of the company stood at 12s. before the Matabele War, but by means of Stock Exchange manoeuvres they went up to 9l., and "thus a 1,000,000l. was being sold to the investing public at 23,000,000l." There ought to be an investigation, and the proper tribunal was a committee of the House. Mr. Arnold Forster (*Belfast, W.*) seconded the amendment, and in an able and courageous speech protested against the mixing up of the functions of government with the pursuit of wealth. Were they not paying too great a price for the additions to the empire which they believed had come to them from the company? He found society had been, so to speak, "salted." High and low, the trail of the serpent was over them, and he should like to know who was and who was not interested in the shares of the company. The original list of shareholders, "locked up in one of the cupboards of the House," was "void and uninforming." He wanted the information carried down to the present time, so that the country could see precisely how things stood. "An amount of money had been circulated in the interests of the company which was shocking to contemplate." There was only one tribunal strong enough to deal with the company—that of public opinion. Sir H. Farquhar (*Marylebone, W.*) replied, on behalf of the company, by declaring that its financial position had never been sounder. After paying off their debentures, they would have 600,000l. in free cash.

Mr. Chamberlain's reply was in great measure an expansion of his despatch of February 4, of which President Krüger's reception was not made public until the following day (Feb. 14), although dated two days earlier, and might therefore have been communicated to Mr. Chamberlain. It took the form of a despatch addressed to Sir Jacob de Wet, the British Agent in Pretoria, and was published on the same day in the official *Staats Courant* of Pretoria. The translation ran as follows:—

"HON. SIR,—I am instructed to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 8th inst., enclosing copy of a telegram received by you from the High Commissioner containing a copy of a telegram to his Excellency from the Secretary of State. The telegram contains an abridged summary of a despatch from the Secretary of State to his Excellency, bearing on occurrences which have recently taken place in the South African Republic.

"In the above-mentioned telegram the Secretary of State expresses the hope that, although the despatch has been published in the *London Gazette*, the State President will keep an open mind on the subject till the despatch shall be placed in his hands. However glad the State President might be to accede to the request, it has been by anticipation made impossible to him by the publication beforehand of the above-mentioned despatch in London. The Government, though awaiting the arrival of the despatch of her Majesty's Government, feels itself compelled even at this juncture to observe that it considers it undesirable and inadvisable to give publicity beforehand to the position which the British Cabinet considers itself entitled to adopt.

"The position of affairs has, in the opinion of the Government, been hereby rendered very difficult, and the Government is compelled not only to remark that it can suffer no interference or intermingling (Dutch, intermingling), however well intentioned, in regard to internal affairs, of which mention is made in the afore-mentioned telegram despatch of the Secretary of State, but is further forced to make public this letter through the medium of the *Staats Courant*.

"The efforts thus far employed by the Government to obtain the ultimate establishment of a good understanding between the republic and England in a moderate and peaceful manner will, according to its opinion, be involved in great difficulty, to the great danger of the peace and order not only of the republic but of the whole of South Africa by again exciting and disturbing the minds of the inhabitants.

"I have the honour to be,

"Your honour's obedient servant,

(Signed) "C. VAN BOESCHOTEN,

"Acting State Secretary."

Whether Mr. Chamberlain was aware of the annoyance given to President Krüger by the publication of the despatch of February 4, he carefully abstained from letting his knowledge appear in his reply to Mr. Labouchere, limiting himself to the points raised by the mover and seconder of the amendment. He denied absolutely that he expected the Uitlanders to take any but constitutional action, or that he knew anything of any inexplicable "concentration of force" on the Transvaal border. He did not believe that Mr. Rhodes, or the Chartered Company, or President Krüger knew of it either; the obvious, though not uttered, implication being that the originators of the raid were

the capitalists of the Rand. He stated that Dr. Jameson would be tried as a criminal, and that an investigation, which might be parliamentary but would probably be through a judicial commission, would be made into the whole conduct of the Chartered Company, including all its financial management. Intermediately its control of the police and soldiers would be taken away, and its borderland would be placed under the authority of a military officer of the Crown. Mr. Rhodes, who had returned to Africa without suggestion from the Colonial Office, would in fact be almost a private individual, and he had declared his sole object in going back had been to develop the material resources of the country.

Mr. Chamberlain then turned to the other branch of the question—the position of the Uitlanders. He did not intend to force his advice as to the municipal autonomy of the Rand upon the Boer Government; but he hoped President Krüger would be willing to find an alternative method of relieving grievances, and “whether or no,” continued the orator, amid ringing cheers from both sides, “I will continue on behalf of her Majesty’s Government to endeavour by every legitimate means to secure that justice which up to the present time has been denied.” President Krüger, after being informed that her Majesty’s Government would not even discuss any modification of Clause 4 of the Convention of 1884, had intimated his willingness to receive an invitation to visit England, which was sent him in cordial terms.

On the resumption of the debate, Sir W. Harcourt in his speech incidentally bore testimony to the personal honour of Mr. Rhodes, of whom he said that, though he might have been actuated by “the last infirmity of noble minds,” he had certainly not been actuated by any mean or sordid motives, or by greed of gain. Sir W. Harcourt spoke incidentally of the regret that would be felt by every one at the “termination” of the hopes expressed by Mr. Chamberlain that President Krüger would visit this country, on which Mr. Chamberlain interpolated the request, “Please do not call it a ‘termination.’” Sir W. Harcourt thereupon correcting himself, spoke of the check to our hopes as a “hitch.” He commented unfavourably on the publication of Mr. Chamberlain’s despatch to Sir Hercules Robinson, and remarked that when a common friend intervenes to heal a “domestic” quarrel, he does not usually invite the general public to listen to his proposals for reconciliation.

Mr. Balfour replied that Mr. Chamberlain had been enthusiastically praised for making public the whole early history of the Transvaal collision, and that it would have been extremely difficult to stop at the point at which Sir W. Harcourt thought that he ought to have ended. When you have fed the public interest on generous food, he said, you cannot suddenly stop and put it on starvation allowances. Mr. Balfour next proceeded to justify Lord Salisbury’s state-

ment at the Nonconformist banquet by quoting from the Blue Book the telegraphic despatch of the Agent-General in the Transvaal "on unquestionable authority" that an appeal had been made by the Boer Government for the intervention of Germany and France, when, in addition, it became a notorious fact that the German Government had proposed to land marines at Delagoa Bay, a chain of evidence was established which warranted the Foreign Minister in making his statement. Her Majesty's Government had not and would not make up their minds until after the conclusion of the trials as to the form which the inquiry into the Chartered Company's affairs should take. As to the immediate future, the Government had no information which led to a belief that it was necessary to do more than had been already done—namely, to take away from the Chartered Company every possibility of offence against the Transvaal. Mr. Balfour concluded by assuring Sir W. Harcourt that Mr. Chamberlain's action in recommending reforms to President Krüger had been approved, not only by British subjects in the South African Republic, but by the whole English- and Dutch-speaking population throughout South Africa.

After some discussion by less responsible members on both sides the amendment was by leave withdrawn with the understanding that the question would be raised at a later date.

The Irish Nationalists having obtained the first place for their Home Rule amendment, the Parnellites, not less solicitous of showing their patriotism, brought forward (Feb. 14) a resolution in favour of amnestying the dynamite prisoners. Mr. Harrington (*Dublin Harbour*) supported the appeal by the usual arguments in defence of political prisoners, but the Home Secretary, Sir M. White-Ridley (*Blackpool, Lancs*), denied that they were political prisoners at all, asserting that they had been guilty of atrocious crimes against society. No new facts had been brought to his attention, but when the time for a reconsideration of the cases again came round the treason-felony prisoners would be treated in the same way as other prisoners, though without any special consideration. A prolonged discussion followed, in which Irish Nationalists of all shades took common ground. In the adjourned debate (Feb. 17) Mr. J. Redmond (*Waterford, E.*) made the strongest appeal in favour of the clemency of the Crown being exercised, and was supported, among others, by the Conservative Hon. Horace Plunkett (*Co. Dublin, S.*), who announced that his views on the amnesty question had undergone considerable change, on the ground that with a Unionist party in office with a majority of 150 the situation was entirely altered. Mr. A. J. Balfour (*Manchester, E.*), in reply, maintained that the one sovereign specific for avoiding excessive severity or undue leniency was "to rigidly follow the habitual and ordinary practice of the Home Office, wavering neither to the right nor to the left, but

to treat the matter exactly as it would be treated if the persons concerned had no powerful backing in the House." He added that the Government intended to pursue the ordinary practice of the Home Office, whereby all long sentences were revised quinquennially. Therefore in a year or two there would be a revision of all the circumstances attending the confinement of these prisoners. Mr. Lecky (*Dublin University*) in a maiden speech pointed out that the greatest difficulty in extending mercy resulted from the tone taken by the Nationalists, who talked as if the release of these prisoners would be a political triumph. Nevertheless he thought it was a question of mercy, and that a strong case might be put in favour of exercising the clemency of the Crown. He shared Mr. Plunkett's views on the question, and hoped the Home Secretary would reconsider these cases, and would release at least some of the prisoners as soon as possible. The ex-Home Secretary, Mr. Asquith (*Fife, E.*), however, supported Mr. Balfour's contention, and thought that unspeakable injustice would be done to the administration of justice if the House of Commons were to lay down that the Secretary of State should exercise the prerogative of mercy on different rules in one class of cases to another. The debate was then closed, and the amendment negatived by 279 to 117 votes.

An amendment on the Venezuelan question having been withdrawn as premature, and another on the breach of faith alleged to have been committed by the occupation of Chitral having been negatived, the needs and wrongs of the Scotch crofters were debated at considerable length, although the Government pointed out that bills for aiding the fishing population and encouraging light railways had been specifically promised.

A more interesting point was raised by Major Jameson (*Clare, W.*), a Nationalist, who moved an amendment representing that the refusal of the Government to concede the demands made on behalf of the Christian Brothers and other denominational schools in Ireland had inflicted a great injustice on these schools, and disappointed the hopes of an overwhelming majority of the Irish people. Mr. J. G. Swift MacNeill (*Donegal, S.*), a Protestant Nationalist, and the descendant of the uncle of Dean Swift, in seconding the motion declared that "all Irish Protestants worth considering were in favour of doing justice to the Christian Brothers." The Chief Secretary, Mr. Gerald Balfour (*Leeds, C.*), after assuring the House that could he have conscientiously done so, he would have been only too glad to yield to the demands made upon him, proceeded to show that the Christian Brothers were in fact asking for more than could possibly be given them. Already the denominational schools in Ireland were treated with far greater favour than the voluntary schools in England, and to give further concessions would be to modify the conscience

clause. Practically, the Christian Brothers had found that the national system of education was inconsistent with the original aims of their society, and therefore no mere modification of the rules could be of avail. There was no solid grievance in the matter, and that was proved by the fact that every other teaching confraternity belonging to the Roman Catholics was content to work with the Board. Mr. Gerald Balfour ended his speech, however, by the remark that the Government had a suggestion to make in the matter which he could not disclose then and there, but which, if treated as non-contentious, might be inserted in a bill they were preparing. Mr. Healy at once showed signs of accepting the olive branch, and finally Mr. Arthur Balfour, as leader of the House, expressed his willingness to enter into communication with Mr. Healy on the subject. After the Radical Mr. Kearley (*Devonport*) had endeavoured to prove that agricultural districts would be only relieved by enforcing rigorously the law against the introduction of adulterated food products, and the Conservative Mr. James Lowther (*Thanet, Kent*) had insisted upon protection as the only remedy, the address was at length (Feb. 10) agreed to, and was ordered to be presented by Privy Councillors.

Before, however, proceeding to the legislative work of the session the leader of the House of Commons, Mr. A. J. Balfour, expressed the views of the Government on the subject of Supply. The duty of voting Supplies to the Crown had originally been the chief function of the Lower House, and its consent had on numerous occasions been obtained by the concession of important privileges on the removal of long-standing grievances. In more recent times the constitutional powers of the Commons had remained in abeyance, for the expenditure of public money was so limited by statute and the control of its issue so jealously fenced round that the dangers which originally existed from the Crown or the Executive could be regarded as imaginary. There remained, however, good reason for the House of Commons maintaining an efficient curb upon departmental expenditure, which with the ever-widening duties of the State was yearly increasing. Experience of upwards of a quarter of a century or more had shown that under the actual system a very ineffectual control was exercised by Parliament. Supply was taken as occasion required or opportunity permitted, a few votes were debated at undue length and towards the end of the session, indefinitely prolonged, when probably three-fourths of the members had quitted Westminster. The Secretary of the Treasury or his colleagues at the Admiralty and War Office would get millions voted without a single criticism or an attempt at inquiry. Mr. Balfour considered that there was room for improvement not only in the existing system, but in practically limiting the length of the session at its opening and thus incidentally prescribing the time for the discussion of the legislative proposals of the Government. In order to carry out

this part of his scheme, dealing with the requirements for the public service, Mr. Balfour began by setting apart one day of the week (Friday) for the business of Supply. Not more than twenty days were to be allotted for the consideration of the annual Estimates for the Army, Navy and Civil Services (three-fourths of the total imperial expenditure), including votes on account. On the nineteenth of such allotted days the chairman was to put every question necessary to dispose of the outstanding votes in Committee of Supply; and on the twentieth of such allotted days the Speaker at 10 P.M. proceed to put forthwith every question necessary to complete the outstanding reports of Supply; and finally the twenty days were to be allotted so that the business of Supply should be closed before August 5.

Mr. Balfour deemed it convenient to make a preliminary statement (Feb. 20) as to the motives of the Government in asking the House to consent to the new standing order which he had placed on the paper with reference to the business of Supply. He admitted that this was a subject closely affecting the interests of private members, but in his judgment the result of the rule would be not to diminish but to augment their privileges. The end which the Government had in view was to improve the discussions in Committee of Supply. The idea that the object of those discussions was to promote economy on the part of the Government was an exploded superstition, for everybody knew that the result was never to diminish, but always practically to increase, expenditure. The real danger of the present day was not that the expenditure of the Government should outrun the desires of the House of Commons, but that the desires of the House of Commons should outrun the resources of the country. In his opinion discussion in Supply performed a useful function in our system of parliamentary government even more than it did in the days of Mr. Hume, because now, broadly speaking, it afforded private members the right of criticism and the constant power of demanding from the Government explanations of their administrative and executive action that without Supply would not be possible. Supply was an open platform for every private member to state his views, not upon abstract questions, but upon the concrete facts of daily administration. Every Government believed they were going to acquire glory by carrying out their legislative programme, and consequently they had the greatest temptation to put off Supply to as late a date as possible, and there was also a tendency to prolong the debates on Class I. in Supply to an inordinate length, so that the months of true parliamentary vigour were spent in empty and foolish discussions, while the really important matters of criticism were frequently thrust away till August or even September. At present Fridays might be used for the purposes of the legislative programme, and, of course, no Government would

give up that privilege unless they could look forward to some probability of concluding the work of Supply and bringing the session to a close in the middle of August. The Government were prepared to give twenty days for discussion in Supply, in addition to the time occupied in discussing the Appropriation Bill and Supplementary Estimates. The great merit of the scheme was that it practically ensured that private members should have the opportunity during the effective parliamentary months of bringing important questions forward and having them fairly discussed. In briefly enumerating the chief objections to the scheme Mr. Balfour said the first was that if they allocated these twenty days to Supply, with a closure, the Government might postpone till the very end of the time the really critical votes which they were afraid to have discussed. For his own part he should not object to allow a committee to determine in each session the order in which the Estimates were to be brought forward, though he did not recommend that course, because he had never heard of a Government which tried to manipulate the business of the House so as to avoid criticism. Therefore he would leave the order of the Estimates to the decision of the Government and the discretion of the Treasury. He should propose to put forward on every day devoted to Supply some vote of public interest and importance. The second objection to his scheme was that at the end of the twenty days a large number of votes would be undiscussed, and that when the guillotine fell it would be found that the expenditure of a vast sum of money had never been really under the consideration of the House at all. This was perfectly true; but the House must be aware that under the present system the number of votes which necessarily passed undiscussed was very large indeed. Mr. Balfour then adduced statistics showing the number of days devoted to Supply in the last six years, and contended that the twenty days which he proposed to allocate to that purpose was a very liberal allowance. The last objection was one of principle. The very idea of bringing Supply to a summary termination was repellent to many members on both sides. He was the last person to undervalue that objection, but he hoped it would not be raised by those honourable gentlemen whose love of parliamentary institutions did not induce them to stay at Westminster during the dog-days in order to vote Supply at the end of August. As to the objection itself, he did not believe there were two opinions in the House as to the inexpediency of applying the gag to legislative proposals. Both parties had done it with reluctance, but every one would deprecate the growth of the practice of bringing to a summary termination the discussions on bills. There were, however, wide distinctions between Supply and bills. In the first place it was not necessary that a bill should pass, whereas it was absolutely necessary that Supply should pass. Again, a bill was always to a certain extent a novelty, whereas Supply was, with

insignificant exceptions, the same from year to year. There was a third distinction, for when a bill passed a permanent alteration was made in the laws, but Supply was passed for a year only. Honourable gentlemen ought to bear in mind that there was no great difference between the guillotine and the ordinary mode in which Supply was brought to an end. The difference between the present and the proposed methods was simply the difference between the guillotine and the rack. At present a large amount of physical torture was applied to the persons engaged in the discussion, and he thought it would be more dignified and less painful to have an automatic closure. He could not conceive why we should tolerate a further continuation of the existing system.

Rules of procedure were matters upon which every member felt qualified or impelled to speak—for whilst some saw in them a latent desire to limit discussion, or the rights of private members, others were no less averse to any alteration of a system which had worked without collapse, if not with general satisfaction, for many generations. Mr. Balfour's proposals were at first regarded with little favour, but as time went their purpose was more fully understood. Four nights were therefore given up to what was rather a general conversation than a systematic debate, in the course of which various alternative proposals were put forward, some of which met with even as much approval as those of the Government. Mr. Courtney (*Bodmin, Cornwall*), who had been chairman of committees, believed that the financial work of the Committee of Supply might advantageously be removed from the whole House, and confided to a small committee. With regard however to the proposed scheme, he suggested that the Government should give guarantees that they would divide Supply into compartments, allotting to each compartment a certain time, so that all the great branches of administration might be efficiently criticised. Sir W. Harcourt agreed with the general objects which the Government had in view, but what they really required was to have Supply properly marshalled for the purposes of discussion, not a cast-iron rule as to the number of days. Sir J. Mowbray (*Oxford University*), one of the most experienced and oldest members of the House, thought that the scheme would restore Supply to its former important position, whilst Sir W. Hart Dyke (*Dartford, Kent*) hoped that they would make it a sessional order only, and Mr. J. Lowther (*Thanet, Kent*) (both Conservatives and former ministers) was ready to hand Fridays over to the Government for the purposes of Supply, but he strongly objected to the gagging proposition. Mr. Balfour in reply to these and other strictures declared that although the closure might and must be used in Supply, it was an inducement which was absolutely powerless for getting Supply through. The Government had not the slightest desire to interfere with the convenience of private members regarding

the mode in which the twenty days were to be allocated ; indeed, he would have no objection to the apportionment of the time being mainly settled by the party whips, and he was willing that the scheme should be tried in the first instance as an experiment, and assented (Feb. 24) to the rule being made a sessional instead of a standing order.

Mr. Labouchere attempted to meet the desires of members anxious to get away from the House for the week end, and proposed to hold morning sittings for Supply on Fridays from 2 P.M. to 7 P.M., leaving Friday evenings from 9 P.M. for private members' motions. A proposal to extend to twenty-five days the maximum time for discussion in Supply met with more success, the Government consenting to offer twenty-three days as a compromise. The form proposed was that at the end of the twenty days it should be in the power of a Minister of the Crown to move that one or more days, not exceeding three, should be given to the discussion of Supply and that these three days should be either before or after August 5 as parliamentary necessities might suggest. With these and a few minor modifications the new rules were passed (Feb. 27) and at once came into operation.

The ministerial programme, as indicated in the Queen's Speech, promised no less than thirteen distinct bills, all of which, with the exception of that regarding Naval Defence, were for the relief of some class or branch of industry. The first to be introduced was that to facilitate the construction of light railways in Great Britain. The President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Ritchie (*Croydon*), in moving for leave to bring in this bill (Feb. 20), explained that it provided that the local authorities might themselves construct and work these light railways, either alone or in conjunction with companies or other local authorities. It was the opinion of the Government that Parliament ought in many cases to join with the local authorities in giving financial aid, and they proposed therefore to devote 1,000,000*l.* under the bill. This sum would be used in two ways. A portion would be available for making advances under special circumstances, such as the construction of light railways likely to benefit agriculture or fisheries in poor districts, these advances being either as free grants or loans, or a combination of the two. Such advances, however, would be made with extreme caution, after careful inquiry. In the other cases contemplated by the bill the Government would have to be satisfied that all the parties interested had given evidence of their belief that the projected line was required by themselves becoming partners in the undertaking. Being so satisfied, the State might contribute up to 25 per cent. of the capital required, but only in the shape of debentures, the interest being fixed at 3½ per cent. In the discussion which followed, general approval of the aims and methods of the bill was expressed, and on a subsequent occasion (Mar. 2) an amendment condemning

any scheme which would increase the local rates was closed after a short debate and the bill read a second time without a division and finally (Mar. 9) referred to the Standing Committee on Trade.

The thorny question of the reinstatement of the Irish evicted tenants was brought forward (Feb. 26) by a Parnellite member, Mr. J. J. Clancy (*Dublin, N.*), in the form of a bill which, involving the expenditure of a large sum of public money, would have relieved the landlords from personal loss. In moving the second reading, Mr. Clancy explained that it differed from previous measures on the subject, inasmuch as it would probably not excite any bitter opposition. It proposed not a compulsory but a voluntary settlement on the lines suggested by various Unionist statesmen. The main proposal was that a board of conciliation should be set up, consisting of three members to be chosen by the Imperial Parliament. This board would merely have power to confirm agreements of all kinds already made between the landlords and tenants concerned. The complete failure of the 13th clause of the Land Purchase Act of 1891 having forbidden all hope of settlement without the provision of money to induce parties to come to an agreement, a proposal had been inserted in the bill that ample funds should be provided out of imperial sources. The board would be empowered to devote a sum which they might deem just towards the liquidation of arrears, and they might also make a grant to each evicted tenant in order to enable him to make a fresh start in life.

On behalf of the Anti-Parnellites, Mr. Dillon (*Mayo, E.*) said that the two sections of the Irish Nationalists would co-operate in advocating the claims of the evicted tenants, and he therefore gave his cordial support to the second reading of the bill. As Parliament would not accept a compulsory measure, he desired to get as good a bill as could be passed. He believed that in the event of the present bill becoming law, the compulsion of public opinion would be brought to bear upon landlords who refused to accept the good offices of a board of conciliation constituted by Parliament.

The Irish opponents of the principles of the bill were unwilling to meet by a direct negative a proposal which had many sympathisers even among the Unionists. Mr. Rentoul, Q.C. (*Down, E.*), an Ulster barrister, consequently proposed an amendment, declaring that the House, while anxious to facilitate arrangements by which evicted tenants should resume the occupation of their holdings, declined to sanction the principle that tenants evicted for non-payment of rent should receive large grants of public money in order to enable them to be reinstated.

The legal arguments by which this amendment was supported were endorsed by Mr. Carson, Q.C. (*Dublin University*), who had come to be regarded as the mouthpiece of the Irish

landlords. He urged that the bill absolutely disregarded the position of the new tenants, who were called "planters" in Ireland. If an order were made that an evicted tenant should be restored to his holding, the "planter," or new tenant, would have to go out without receiving any compensation. He strongly objected to the establishment of a conciliation board. The board would have the same functions as existing tribunals, and consequently two standards of purchase and two standards of fair rent would be set up.

Amongst the Unionists, however, there was considerable division of opinion as to the expediency of rejecting Mr. Clancy's scheme, Sir Albert Rollit (*Islington, S.*) and Mr. Hobhouse (*Somerset, E.*) declaring their unwillingness to vote against it. On the front Opposition bench, the ex-Chief Secretary, Mr. J. Morley (*Montrose Burghs*), who had just re-entered the House, was the only speaker, but he unhesitatingly supported the bill, which he declared contravened no principle of Unionist policy, but, on the contrary, embodied the very recommendations made by leading members of the Unionist party. When he brought forward an Evicted Tenants Bill in the last Parliament no one in "another place" was more emphatic than the Duke of Devonshire in saying that if the measure could be transformed into a voluntary bill he would raise no objections to it. This bill carried the voluntary principle to an almost excessive extent. Indeed, he was afraid that its purely voluntary character would to a considerable degree impair its efficacy. He confessed he should be greatly disappointed to find that the Chief Secretary was unable to accept the second reading of a bill, the principles of which had received the cordial assent of leading members of the present Administration.

Mr. Morley's successor as Chief Secretary, Mr. Gerald Balfour (*Leeds, C.*), replied in a manner which at once raised him to a position amongst the speakers of the first rank, and justified his selection for the difficult post he filled. He frankly stated that in the bill there were clauses and provision with which he was in accord. He had no objection, for instance, to the re-enactment of the 13th clause of the act of 1891, although he had never anticipated that it would have a very extensive effect. There was another point to which he was not opposed on principle. He thought it would be advantageous that some means should be devised whereby a conciliator should come between the tenants on the one hand and the landlords on the other. But the actual proposal in the bill was not one which the Government could accept under any circumstances. If, however, some arrangement could be made to enable the Land Commission to intervene between landlords and tenants, that was a matter to which the Government would raise no serious objection. He objected, moreover, to giving to tenants evicted under the Plan of Campaign grants of public money which other tenants at least equally deserving were not

to receive. The statistics did not present a case for the extraordinary course proposed in the bill of granting public money for the purpose of enabling these evicted tenants to be reinstated. It was clear that but for the No Rent movement and the Plan of Campaign the House would never have heard of this demand at all. That plan was in reality a campaign against law and order, and when honourable members opposite asked for public money to reinstate these tenants they were simply coming after a defeat to the victorious party and asking to be reimbursed the costs of the war. If the unfortunate men now on the hillside had suffered wrong, that wrong was inflicted by honourable gentlemen who had promised to assist them and who failed to do so. This was not a case for the expenditure of public money, but it was eminently a case for the expenditure of private money on the part of those who were primarily responsible for the evictions. Certainly there was no reason why Parliament should rehabilitate the political credit of the member for East Mayo. If the House by passing this bill sanctioned the principle of paying public money to those who had made default of their obligations, he was afraid that it would sow the seeds of still greater evil in the future, and that one more step would be taken in the downward path of demoralisation.

After a few more speeches had been delivered, the House divided on Mr. Rentoul's amendment, which was carried by 271 to 174 votes, and although the second reading of the bill was not formally rejected, its purpose was virtually defeated and the question was not further raised.

Mr. Morley's return to Parliament was hailed with general satisfaction, even by his political opponents; although in some of his electioneering speeches he had displayed more than ordinary personal feeling in his attacks upon Lord Salisbury. For instance, at Arbroath (Feb. 1), he found fault with the Secretary for Foreign Affairs for not more clearly approving of President Cleveland's gloss upon the Monroe doctrine. Whilst approving the doctrine itself, at Montrose (Feb. 4) he made a grievance of the view that English political parties were divided by those lines which divide the rich from the poor, and at Brechin (Feb. 5) he solemnly warned Lord Salisbury from deviating from the traditional policy of Great Britain in Eastern Europe. These views, however, were apparently to the taste of the electors, for he greatly increased the majority by which his predecessor, Mr. Shiress Will, Q.C., had been returned at the general election. On that occasion the Radical vote had polled only 3,594, whilst Mr. Morley obtained 4,565 votes against 2,572 given to the Unionist candidate, Mr. J. Wilson. The Radicals had also recovered two of the seats vacated on petition—Southampton, which returned Sir Francis Evans by 5,557 against 5,522 votes given to Mr. Candy, Q.C.; and Lichfield, where Mr. Warner was returned by a majority of 528 over the Liberal

Unionist, Major Darwin, although at the general election the latter had only been beaten by 44 votes by Mr. Fulford, who was unseated on petition.

The arrival of Dr. Jameson and his fourteen companions at Plymouth (Feb. 23) threw upon the Government an invidious duty. President Krüger had with much astuteness made their surrender appear as an act of grace and magnanimity, whereas by so doing he relieved himself and the Boer Government of a serious responsibility. There was, moreover, a decided but unreasoning sympathy for Dr. Jameson and his companions among English-speaking people generally, and special precautions had been taken by order of the Government both at Durban and Cape Town to prevent any manifestation of popular feeling. In England this sympathy existed in even a greater degree, and the most elaborate steps were adopted to defeat public curiosity. Sealed orders awaited the officers of the *Victoria* on her arrival at Plymouth, and after a feigned disembarkation at Southampton, Dr. Jameson and his companions were brought up the Thames to Purfleet, where they were transferred to a police steamer and landed at Waterloo Bridge, and formally arrested within the jurisdiction of the chief London police magistrate. They were at once taken to Bow Street and charged under the Foreign Enlistment Act, and remanded on their own recognisances of 1,000*l.* each. Although every effort had been made to keep their arrival secret, large crowds assembled both in the police court and in the neighbouring streets, and their appearance was greeted with wild enthusiasm, which called forth in court a weighty rebuke from Sir John Bridge, who dwelt upon the serious nature of the offence with which the prisoners were charged. In releasing them, he urged them to reticence during their freedom on bail, and it must be added that neither Dr. Jameson nor any of his companions during the long delay preceding their trial in any way forfeited the confidence placed in their discretion by the magistrate.

The Government had allowed it to be known soon after the result of the general election had assured them a lease of power that among the first objects of their policy would be the strengthening of the naval force of the country. Throughout the recess Mr. Goschen had been diligently elaborating a plan which should meet the most pressing needs of imperial defence, and the rapid mobilisation of the squadron of observation, on the first rumour of possible trouble with Germany, was evidence that the administration of the Navy was in capable hands. It was not, however, until Parliament met that he was able to explain his full intentions, or to show to what extent it would be necessary to apply for further grants of money. In the prefatory statement attached to the Estimates, the details of the proposed works, etc., were set out in detail. The amount of money received for the service of the year 1896-7 showed a

net total of 21,823,000*l.* or 3,122,000*l.* more than the original Estimates for 1895-6, and 4,456,900*l.* more than those of 1894-5. In addition to these sums, however, Supplementary Estimates amounting to 200,000*l.* had been voted in 1894-5, and about 1,000,000*l.* was required to complete the expenditure of 1895-6. According to the statement: "This great increase in the demands for the Navy, both as regards the present and the coming financial year, is due in a large measure to the acceleration of work on shipbuilding, with all the attending consequences. It has always been foreseen that the financial year 1896-7 would require a larger provision for new construction and armaments than the preceding two years of the programme initiated by Lord Spencer, but the decision of the Admiralty to hasten on the completion of ships beyond the degree originally contemplated has put a larger burden both on 1895-6 and 1896-7. The prospect of an earlier completion of ships renders an earlier delivery of guns and ammunition necessary, and thus carries with it a considerable increase in vote 9 for armaments. An augmentation of the supply of all kinds of stores became equally imperative. As regards armour especially it has been very important to anticipate the dates of orders which were in contemplation. The progressive increase in the number of men borne, as well as in the number of ships kept in commission, is another source of expanding expenditure in every direction.

"The policy of acceleration will be pursued vigorously in the year 1896-7. A considerable proportion of the increase in the shipbuilding vote is due, not only to the number of new ships which it is proposed to build, but to the rapidity with which contractors will be called upon to complete the third-class cruisers and torpedo-boat destroyers for which they may obtain orders.

"At the same time, the number of dockyard hands has been increased, and it is anticipated that they will reach the figures of 23,350 in the coming financial year."

The actual figures of the ensuing year as compared with those for 1895-6 were:—

	Net Estimates.		Difference on Net Estimates.	
	1896-7.	1895-6.	Increase.	Decrease.
I.—Numbers.	Total Num- bers.	Total Num- bers.	Numbers.	Numbers.
Total number of Officers, Seamen, Boys, Coastguard and Royal Marines - - -	93,750	88,850	4,900	—
II.—Effective Services.	£	£	£	£
Wages, etc., of Officers, Seamen, Boys, Coastguard and Royal Marines - - -	4,419,800	4,133,500	286,300	—
Victualling and Clothing for the Navy - - -	1,369,600	1,367,100	2,500	—
Medical Establishments and Services - - -	156,200	151,400	4,800	—
Martial Law - - -	10,600	10,600	—	—
Educational Services - - -	81,300	79,400	1,900	—
Scientific Services - - -	63,300	61,400	1,900	—
Royal Naval Reserves - - -	229,800	215,600	14,200	—
Shipbuilding, Repairs, Maintenance, etc. :—				
Section I.— <i>Personnel</i> - -	2,104,000	1,810,000	294,000	—
Section II.— <i>Materiel</i> - -	2,251,000	2,655,000	—	404,000
Section III.—Contract Work	5,386,000	3,416,000	1,970,000	—
Naval Armaments - - -	2,543,200	1,693,200	850,000	—
Works, Buildings and Repairs at Home and Abroad - -	618,400	547,000	71,400	—
Miscellaneous Effective Services	189,200	176,800	12,400	—
Admiralty Office - - -	236,800	237,200	—	400
Total Effective Services - -	19,659,200	16,554,200	3,509,400	404,400
III.—Non-Effective Services.				
Half Pay, Reserved and Retired Pay - - -	749,000	761,300	—	12,300
Naval and Marine Pensions, Gratuities and Compassionate Allowances - - -	1,030,100	1,007,900	22,200	—
Civil Pensions and Gratuities -	324,400	317,300	7,100	—
Total Non-Effective Services -	2,103,500	2,086,500	29,300	12,300
IV.—Extra Estimate for Services in Connection with the Colonies.				
Additional Naval Force for Service in Australasian Waters—Annuity payable under - -	60,300	50,300	—	—
Grand Total - - -	21,823,000	18,701,000	3,538,700	416,700
Net increase, 3,122,000%.				

Mr. Goschen's personal explanation of the naval programme and policy of the Government was awaited with anxiety, for it was uncertain up to the last how far the rumours which were floating about as to the intentions of the Admiralty were based upon facts. The promising condition of the national finances gave hope that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would be able to provide his colleague with the means of carrying into effect the public demand for an increased and fully organised Navy. Mr. Goschen, therefore, was loudly cheered when he began his

speech (Mar. 2) by declaring his wish to approach the business part of his statement at once. He expressed a hope that he might be relieved from any necessity of dwelling upon the critical nature of the times and that the Estimates of the Government, which were not proposed with any feeling of alarm, would be accepted by the country as adequate to the occasion. The only other preliminary observation he would make was to remind the House of the truism, often ignored, that any increase of the fleet meant not only an increase in the number of ships, but must be followed all along the line of naval preparations and expenditure in various directions. With regard to the *personnel* of the Navy, he wished to dispel the fallacy that the Government had difficulty in obtaining sufficient men for the service. Last year the increase in the total number of men was about 5,000, and he proposed to sanction a further increase of 4,900 men. The recruiting for the Marines had been most satisfactory, but as the number of men was to be increased additional hospital and barrack accommodation would become necessary, and consequently additional expenditure would be proposed under these two heads. The experiment of obtaining from the mercantile marine a certain number of commissioned officers had augmented our naval strength, but this was only a temporary expedient, and we must continue to rely on the system of education as carried out in the *Britannia* for the supply of officers to our fleet. They ought, however, to consider whether the area from which they drew their cadets was not too small, and he had conferred with the head masters of our great schools, who were most anxious to establish Navy classes. He therefore proposed that the boys should be kept in the ordinary schools a year longer than at present before they entered the service, and that they should have sixteen months of preliminary training instead of twenty-three. Moreover, it was intended to substitute a college on shore for the *Britannia*. Passing to the question of mobilisation, Mr. Goschen remarked that we now had two additional battleships in the Channel, in the Mediterranean, and in China. Efficient ships had also been substituted for old vessels and a flying squadron had been organised, which added largely to the number of our ships afloat. With regard to guns and ammunition scarcely sufficient provision had been made in the past two years, and accordingly the Admiralty had in the present year spent 200,000*l.* extra, for which he should propose Supplementary Estimates. He regretted to state that it would be necessary to ask the House to assent to an increase of no less than 850,000*l.* on the vote for ordnance and ammunition, but he need hardly remind the House that it would be useless to grant the ships and to refuse the ammunition. A further result of the increase in guns and ammunition would be that additional storage room and more magazines would become necessary. Last year money was taken, under the Naval Works Act, for the extension of the mole and for the

construction of a dock at Gibraltar; and her Majesty's Government had decided to build three docks there instead of one, and to provide all the accommodation required by our strategic position. The cost of the works was estimated at 2,250,000*l.*, in addition to the 361,000*l.* already provided. The amount, he admitted, was large, but he did not think it was staggering, and he trusted that the Government would in this matter receive the support of a large majority of the members of the House of Commons. The Government had carefully considered all the questions relating to the strategic position of Gibraltar, and, with a sense of their responsibility, they asked the House to vote this additional amount. They also intended to ask for money to defray the cost of preliminary surveys for docks at Mauritius and Simon's Town. The amount taken by the bill of last year for naval works at Dover was 2,000,000*l.*, but he believed the cost was very greatly underestimated. He therefore proposed that the total amount, 8,500,000*l.*, already provided for naval works should this year be increased to 14,000,000*l.* With reference to the finance of the measure, he was authorised to state that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would generously put aside the surplus of this year, after satisfying the Supplementary Estimates, to be a fund which, in the first instance, would supply the expenditure under the Naval Works Bill.

Turning next to the question of shipbuilding, Mr. Goschen described the efforts of the last few years, since the passing of the Naval Defence Act in 1889. Of course, in the first year there were certain ships under construction which he left out. He summarised roughly the work of three periods—the naval defence programme, the programme intervening between the Naval Defence Act and Lord Spencer's large programme of 1894, and, thirdly, this last programme itself. The Naval Defence Act added to the Navy seventy ships, of which ten were battleships. The intermediate period supplied three battleships—*viz.*, the *Renown*, *Majestic*, and *Magnificent*—five cruisers, including the *Powerful* and the *Terrible*; four sloops and six torpedo-boat destroyers. Adding up the seventy of the Naval Defence Act, the twelve ships of the intermediate period, and the twenty-three of Lord Spencer's programme, he arrived at a total of 105 ships and sixty-two torpedo-boat destroyers. This was a formidable list, and yet he should have to ask the House to add to it. The effect of the Naval Defence Act was as follows: Of the seventy ships built under it there were at the present moment in commission ten battleships, twenty-seven cruisers, and nine torpedo-gunboats. The Mediterranean Squadron had three Defence Act battleships (out of nine) and six (out of seven) Defence Act cruisers of first and second class; the Channel Squadron had four Defence Act battleships (out of six); while the Particular Service Squadron was (excepting torpedo-boat destroyers) entirely composed of Defence Act ships.

The Supplementary Estimate which her Majesty's Government felt it their duty to submit to the House amounted to about 1,100,000*l.* The number of ships which they proposed to add to those now in course of construction was as follows: five battleships, four first-class cruisers, three second-class cruisers, six third-class cruisers, and twenty-eight torpedo-boat destroyers. Thus thirteen battleships would be in course of construction during the present year. This and the additional number of cruisers represented the deliberate opinion of the Admiralty as to the requirements of our Navy. Looking to the increased number of ships, the cost, in addition to what we had in hand at the beginning of the year, would be 10,000,000*l.* spread over three years. They proposed to finish the whole of Lord Spencer's ships, and also the whole of their own, by July, 1899. He might thus summarise the expenditure proposed—1,000,000*l.*, Supplemental Estimate; 21,800,000*l.*, Estimate for 1896-7; 14,000,000*l.*, Naval Works Bill; or, looking at ship-building over a certain number of years from 1889 to 1899—naval defence, 21,000,000*l.*; intermediate programme, 5,000,000*l.*; programme now under execution, 29,000,000*l.*; total, 55,000,000*l.* In an eloquent peroration Mr. Goschen declared, amid loud cheers, that these Estimates were not submitted in any spirit of provocation, but that they were Estimates of self-defence and were based on the special conditions of this country. The British people unanimously demanded that their fleet should represent the self-reliance of a great nation, and to that unanimity her Majesty's Government commended these Estimates, being satisfied that the cost would be cheerfully borne.

The general opinion in the House and in the country was favourable to Mr. Goschen's proposals; and although the bill presented was a large one, it was determined that no opposition to the amount should be raised by the Liberal leaders. It soon became known, moreover, that the Government scheme had met with general approval in Australia and Canada, where the increasing importance rendered the people more sensible to the advantages of imperial defence. In fact, the Radicals were among the first to find fault with Mr. Goschen for not going still further; Sir C. Dilke (*Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire*), for instance, expressing his belief that the increase in the number of battleships was insufficient. In regard to manning, he doubted whether there would be enough men to meet the waste of the first week of war. Sir W. Lawson and Mr. Labouchere, however, were aghast at the proposed expenditure, and succeeded in raising a long debate, but in a division (Mar. 9) found only forty-five members to support their views. The intentions of the Government were still further explained in a "Naval Works Bill," which, as its title implied, dealt especially with buildings which it was proposed to erect, and harbours to enlarge in various parts of the empire. On the general discussion of the bill (Mar. 19) the principal objection raised was to the substitution of a college at

Dartmouth for training naval cadets in lieu of the *Britannia*. Mr. Austen Chamberlain (*Worcester, E.*), on behalf of the Admiralty, said that so far back as 1876 Admiral Luard's Committee had reported that the *Britannia* bore no resemblance to a battleship, that year by year she became less like a ship and more like a floating school. For sanitary and other reasons a college on shore would be a great improvement on the *Britannia*, and the proposed site at Dartmouth had been chosen on the advice of medical officers. At a later stage (Mar. 26) Mr. J. H. Lewis (*Flint District*) endeavoured to transfer from the sum allocated to Gibraltar sufficient to provide for works at Pembroke, and Mr. W. Redmond (*Clare, E.*) was anxious to protect Berehaven at the expense of Dover, whilst Dr. Clark (*Caithness-shire*) went still further by proposing to strike off altogether 100,000*l.* from the sum required for the extension of Keyham Dockyard. All these proposals, however, were negatived by overwhelming majorities, and the bill was reported (Mar. 26) without amendment, and read a third time (Mar. 30) by 186 to 27 votes.

The large increase in the Navy Estimates was met by no corresponding expansion of those for the Army. Whatever may have been the ambition of the new Commander-in-Chief he was forced to keep his reforms within the limits of the ordinary expenditure, and to effect only such changes as involved no extra outlay of money. Therefore although the cost of various services showed considerable variations, the total Estimates did not differ by more than 2,800*l.* from those of the preceding year.

The report of the Inspector-General of Recruiting, which bore very directly upon the condition of the soldiers, was issued simultaneously with the Secretary for War's memorandum relating to the Estimates. Major-General Sir F. W. Grenfell stated that at the beginning of 1895 the total strength of the regular Army was considerably in excess of the authorised numbers, and that throughout the year there was no difficulty in obtaining the full number of recruits required and in maintaining the Army at the establishment authorised by Parliament. The number of recruits who joined during the year was 29,583, of whom 1,809 enlisted for twelve years with the colours, 26,198 for seven years with the colours and five years in the reserve, and 1,576 for three years with the colours and nine in the reserve. This number, 29,583, was smaller than in any year since 1891. Of these 19,153 joined the infantry of the line, 1,173 the foot guards, 2,518 the cavalry, 4,552 the royal artillery, and 524 colonial corps. The effectives as compared with the establishment of each arm in the whole Army were effectives 213,480 and establishment 209,535—that is, there were 3,945 supernumerary. The standard of height and chest measurement and the minimum age and weight of recruits remained the same as in 1894. The percentage of recruits

(exclusive of those for the colonial corps) specially enlisted under standard had progressively diminished from 32·9 in 1891 to 19·9 in 1895.

Figures provided by the Director-General of the Army Medical Department showed the occupations and education of the recruits medically inspected during the past five years. In 1895 of every 1,000 recruits 678 were labourers, servants, and husbandmen; 131 manufacturing artisans, 94 mechanics employed in occupations favourable to physical development, 58 shopmen and clerks, 10 men engaged in professional occupations, and 29 boys under 17 years of age. With regard to education, 63 in every 1,000 were described as well educated, 902 as able to read and write, 12 as able to read only, and 23 as unable to read. Both in occupations and education these proportions had varied little in the five years. The number of recruits who joined from the Militia was 12,900, a decrease since the 16,066 of 1892, and this falling off was attributed to the reduction in the bounty.

Of the numbers of recruits medically inspected the percentage of rejections was 41·0, a proportion about the same as in the two previous years. The number of invalids discharged during the year under two years' service was 952, a proportion of 16 in 1,000; this is higher than in any year since 1891. As to deserters, the number in 1895 was 3,453; of these 1,656 rejoined, leaving a waste of 1,797. This was small in comparison with former years, as the following figures will show. In the years 1891-4 the waste was 2,924, 3,018, 2,726, and 2,125 respectively.

The total strength of the first-class Army reserve in 1896 is 78,057, whereas 85,000 are provided for in the Estimates. The force reached its fullest expansion on January 1, 1895, when it was 82,804. This decrease was partly to be attributed to the gradual extinction of the supplemental reserve. In 1895, 14,594 were transferred from the colours to the first-class Army reserve, a falling off from previous years.

In the Militia the effective strength in 1896 is 108,350 and establishment 126,723 (both figures almost the same as in 1895), so that 18,373 were wanting to complete. In 1895 there were 101,220 present at training, and 7,457 were absent without leave. Of the 108,350, 72,342 were English, 13,479 Scotch, and 22,529 Irish. During the year 35,148 were enlisted, a substantial increase on the number of 1894.

The steps taken during the last twenty years for promoting the civil employment of discharged soldiers were detailed in the report for 1894. Last year the average number on the official registers for employment was 10,036, and employment was found for 2,794.

In conclusion the inspector-general replied that throughout the service the conduct of the soldiers continued to improve; and that the class of recruits joining was generally satisfactory.

The greater comfort of the men in barracks, the improvements in increasing the encouragement of athletic games, and the greater freedom granted had combined to raise the position of the soldier and make the service popular.

The Secretary for War, Lord Lansdowne, in his explanatory memorandum of the Army Estimates approached the question from another point of view, and summarised the changes it was intended to introduce into military administration.

The Army Estimates for the year 1895-6 showed a decrease of 22,100*l.*, a net result which mainly arose from a considerable fall in the prices of supplies, partly counterbalanced by an increase of the Sinking Fund to repay loans under the Barracks Act.

In the Estimates for 1896-7 there was a decrease of 7,200*l.* upon effective services and an increase of 10,000*l.* upon non-effective, giving a net increase of 2,800*l.* upon all services. Owing to the special grants made to Volunteer corps for 1895-6, and provided for in the Supplementary Estimate of February 26, 1896, a saving of 199,700*l.* was effected in the Volunteer vote, but against this had to be set an increase of expenditure on warlike and other stores, and the additional expenditure required for the extended manœuvres to be carried out this year.

The proposed changes of establishment involved a net increase of 771 men to the Army. The principal changes provided for were the addition of 120 men to each of the three infantry battalions serving in Nova Scotia, Bermuda, and the West Indies, in order that those battalions might be augmented to the same establishment as other line battalions serving in the colonies; and the addition of two companies to the Royal Malta Artillery.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, in his memorandum on the Army Estimates, 1895-6, expressed a hope that it might be found possible to withdraw a battalion from Egypt during 1895. This hope was not realised, and recent events in that part of Africa rendered it improbable that there would be a reduction of the Egyptian garrison during the current year.

The reorganisation of the Royal Artillery decided upon by the late Government was carried out, so far as regards the increase of the corps, by one horse and seven field batteries; and special steps were being taken to provide as rapidly as possible the new and the converted guns required. The whole of the Horse Artillery was to be rearmed with the new gun, and the sixty guns thus rendered available for the Field Artillery, as well as the whole of the guns already in its possession, were to be converted from 12-pr. to 15-pr.

A part of the new Horse Artillery equipment was supplied by the ordnance factories. The remainder of the equipment which the factories had undertaken to provide would, it was

hoped, be delivered by June 1; and that portion which had been given to the trade was promised by the end of August. With regard to Field Artillery a number of guns sufficient to supply two Army corps would be converted within three months. The conversion of the remainder would be proceeded with as rapidly as the engagements of the factories permitted. When the whole work was completed the present establishment of Horse Artillery would be in possession of its full complement of guns and its reserves; while the Field Artillery would have its full complement of guns, its reserves, and a certain number of surplus guns.

The Militia force generally was reported by the Inspector-General of Auxiliary Forces to be in an efficient state. There was an increase of over 1,900 in the number of recruits enlisted during 1895, compared with the enlistments in 1894, and also an increase of 400 in the number of Militiamen present at the training of 1895 compared with the previous year.

In the Yeomanry there had been a slight decrease in the numbers of men, but the strength of officers is well maintained. The force had much improved in efficiency under the brigade system, which promoted a healthy rivalry between regiments.

The condition of the Volunteer force remained satisfactory. The number of Volunteers returned as efficient exceeded by more than 400 the figures for the previous year, but there was a slight falling off in the numbers present at inspection, the total for 1895 being 198,673, as against 200,592 for 1894.

Difficulty continued to be experienced in obtaining officers for this force, which was in this respect 1,860 below its establishment. An additional sum was therefore taken in order to assist officers in providing an outfit; and a further sum provided for grants to officers attending schools of instruction.

The special extra payment to Volunteer corps out of the sum voted in the Supplementary Estimate of February 26, 1896, would, it was hoped, place the finances of the force on a satisfactory footing. The effect of the payment was that every corps would receive, at about the ordinary time, an additional half-year's grant beyond the usual allowance.

The actual cost of the Army Services for the current year as compared with the preceding was thus shown :—

Votes.		Net Estimates.		Difference on Net Estimates.	
		1896-7	1895-6.	Increase.	Decrease.
	I.—Numbers.	Total Numbers.	Total Numbers.	Numbers.	Numbers.
A	Number of men on the Home and Colonial Establishments of the Army, exclusive of those serving in India - - -	156,174	155,403	771	—
	II.—Effective Services.	£	£	£	£
1	Pay, etc., of Army (General Staff, Regiments, Reserve, and Departments) - - - -	5,862,500	5,841,950	20,550	—
2	Medical Establishments: Pay, etc. - - - -	294,800	292,000	2,800	—
3	Militia: Pay and Allowances - - - -	548,000	560,000	—	12,000
4	Yeomanry Cavalry: Pay and Allowances - - -	73,000	73,000	—	—
5	Volunteer Corps: Pay and Allowances - - - -	624,500	824,200	—	199,700
6	Transport and Remounts -	660,200	637,000	23,200	—
7	Provisions, Forage, and other Supplies - - -	2,519,900	2,581,000	—	61,000
8	Clothing Establishments and Services - - - -	858,600	840,600	18,000	—
9	Warlike and other Stores: Supply and Repair - -	2,133,000	*1,952,850	180,150	—
10	Works, Buildings, and Repairs: Cost, including Staff for Engineer Services - - - -	1,007,700	989,600	18,100	—
11	Military Educational Establishments: Pay and Miscellaneous Charges -	119,900	114,500	5,400	—
12	Miscellaneous Effective Services - - - -	51,400	49,000	2,400	—
13	War Office: Salaries and Miscellaneous Charges -	253,500	258,500	—	5,000
	Total Effective Services -	15,007,000	15,014,200	—	7,200
	III.—Non-Effective Services.				
14	Non-Effective Charges for Officers, etc. - - - -	1,519,000	1,515,200	3,800	—
15	Non-Effective Charges for Men, etc. - - - -	1,357,000	1,355,000	2,800	—
16	Superannuation, Compensation, and Compassionate Allowances -	172,800	169,400	3,400	—
	Total Non-Effective Services - - - -	3,049,600	3,039,600	10,000	—
	Total Effective and Non-Effective Services - - - -	18,056,600	*18,053,800	10,000	7,200
Net increase, 2,800l.					
* Including Supplementary Estimate, dated August 12, 1895, for 70,000l., taken for session, but exclusive of Supplementary Estimate for 601,300l., dated February 26, 1896.					

Previous, however, to laying before the House of Commons these Estimates for the ensuing year, the Financial Secretary, Hon. St. J. Brodrick (*Guildford, Surrey*), had to obtain parliamentary sanction for 601,300*l.*, the amount of the additional expenditure incurred on account of Army Services during the year just drawing to a close. He began by explaining that of this total the sum of 120,000*l.* was put down in respect of the Ashanti expedition. The pay of the native carriers, estimated at about 40,000*l.*, had been met out of funds advanced by the Colonial Treasurer of the Gold Coast, and the balance of the extra cost of the expedition, to meet which the Supplementary Estimate had been framed, would also ultimately be repaid by the Colonial Government in instalments. Therefore the sum of 120,000*l.*, though it must be voted in order to defray the charges incurred, would not remain a permanent burden on the Exchequer. On account of the laborious nature of the work done in Ashanti it was intended to give a bounty of one month's pay to the troops. The Estimate for capitation grants to Volunteer corps was due to a rearrangement of the date on which allowances were paid, and the sum payable in 1896-7 would be reduced by one-half. The effect of the change would be to place in a better position those corps which had relied on the capitation grant to pay their debts. It was intended to make a change in the equipment allowance to the Volunteers, and also to give an equipment allowance to officers. Adverting next to the state of the artillery, Mr. Brodrick said it had received the serious attention of Lord Lansdowne. With regard to the re-organisation of the Royal Artillery last year Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman decided to form eight new batteries. At that time, however, it was not clearly explained how those batteries were to be formed. As a matter of fact, each existing battery had a *depôt*, and in order to form these new batteries twenty guns were taken from the *depôts*. In addition to this, six field batteries with six guns each were reduced to four-gun batteries. Altogether thirty-two guns were made available and were formed into eight new batteries. The result was that the House was led to believe that the force was considerably increased. The present Government had given orders not only for greatly increasing the rate at which Horse Artillery guns were to come in, but also the rate at which Field Artillery guns were to be converted. Their position was this: They confidently expected that they would have thirty new guns for the Horse Artillery ready by April 30 and fourteen additional guns by June 1, and that the whole equipment and reserve for the Horse Artillery would be ready in the autumn. In regard to the Field Artillery, we should have converted 180 guns by April 30 and seventy-eight more by June 1, making in all 258. We should have in all forty-six reserve guns, and the total of the artillery would be 387 guns, as against 306 last year, giving a surplus of eighty-one guns with all their equipment.

The only serious opposition to these Estimates was raised by Mr. Dillon (*Mayo, E.*), who in moving the reduction of the vote by 100,000*l.*, on the ground that no justification of the Ashanti War had been offered, found himself supported by the extreme section of English and Scotch Radicals. After a protracted debate, which was brought to an end by the closure, the proposed reduction was negatived by 232 to 55 votes.

Three days later (Mar. 16) Mr. Brodrick was able to explain in a lucid and interesting speech the Estimates for the ensuing year. He admitted that the total amount of the Estimates, 18,056,600*l.*, was a very large sum, since it was more than that for which we had hitherto obtained the finest Navy in the world, while it approached within appreciable nearness the expenditure of foreign Powers who maintained three or four times the number of troops that we did. It must be borne in mind, however, that our position was wholly different and that our forces were organised for home and colonial defence on a different system. When the votes were so redistributed as to show at a glance what the Army cost us as mobilised for war, it would be seen that at an annual expense of 6,620,000*l.* during peace we put into the field for home defence three complete army corps and four cavalry brigades, composed of 112,000 regulars and army reservists. The total amount for men and officers together averaged under 59*l.* a head. Our garrisons in the fortresses abroad, the colonies and in Egypt, amounting to 38,400 men, cost us annually 254,000*l.*, or 84*l.* 15*s.* per man for every expense, all being on the full-pay list. We should have on mobilisation in defensive positions at home and in garrisons 333,000 men, costing 3,603,000*l.*, or on the average 11*l.* per man for every expense; and behind these again we had 90,000 men, being the staff at the depôts, men of under one year's service, and unallotted troops, costing 3,214,000*l.* Our expenditure on warlike stores of all descriptions was 1,420,000*l.*, which included ammunition for and maintenance of big and small guns, at home and all over the world; and we spent 432,600*l.* on fortifications, works and buildings other than barracks. The War Office cost for military department, 142,800*l.*; civilian department, 123,000*l.*; non-effective, 51,300*l.*—total, 317,100*l.* We thus reached the net total of 18,000,000*l.* After describing in minute detail the main items of the programme on which the War Office hoped to enter during the year, Mr. Brodrick observed that in completing the rearmament of the troops, in providing training by manœuvres and ranges, in forwarding mobilisation, in building barracks and completing fortifications they might be doing nothing new, but they were at least adopting a standard which they might hope to attain and below which it would not be easy in the future for this or any Ministry to fall.

On this occasion, as on the discussion of the Navy Estimates, the wish for larger armaments was voiced by that advanced Radical, Sir Charles W. Dilke (*Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire*),

who expressed his belief that we had no Army which could successfully resist invasion, supposing that our fleet failed. Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman (*Stirling Burghs*), who had been Secretary for War, took a more cheerful view of our position and maintained that on the whole the progress made in the Army was satisfactory and in the right direction.

An important measure which had for its object the more effective training of soldiers in large bodies, and to facilitate military manœuvres, entitled the Military Manœuvres Bill, was also brought forward (Feb. 20). Mr. Brodrick explained that the chief feature of the bill was the appointment of a consultative local council which would make regulations in connection with military manœuvres and protect the interests of the locality. The Radicals, however, championed by Mr. Luttrell (*Tavistock, Devon.*), took alarm at this exceptional interference with the rights of property and the liberty of the subject. He therefore moved as an amendment (Mar. 19) that the powers sought by the War Office should be allowed only after the sanction of Parliament had been obtained in each case by means of a special act or confirmed provisional order. Although this amendment was negatived by 182 to 50, and the bill read a second time without a division, it was lost in its later stages through the persistent opposition of a small group of Radicals who saw in the measure an attempt to give the military authorities special powers and authority.

There was some curiosity to know how the Civil Service Estimates for the year would be framed and presented by the new Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. R. W. Hanbury (*Preston*), who when in Opposition had displayed much zeal as a financial reformer and a keen critic of civil expenditure. Official experience of a few months, however, had shown him that in the most important case the yearly increase of expenditure was automatic and inevitable, swamping all economies effected elsewhere, and notwithstanding his best efforts the Estimates for the ensuing year showed an increase of nearly 300,000*l.* upon those of its predecessor. Improvements in the public parks, alterations in public buildings, the erection of new revenue and post offices in various parts of the country, the extension of Irish light railways, also, above all, the revised system of rating Government property, caused an increase of 125,704*l.* upon Class I. (Public Works and Buildings). On Class II. (Salaries and Expenses of Public Departments) a net saving of nearly 10,000*l.* was effected, notwithstanding an increased expenditure of almost equal amount was incurred by reason of the extended inspection of factories and workshops. The total of Class III. (Law and Justice) showed a still greater saving was effected, spread over two-thirds of the separate votes included in this category. Class IV. (Education, Science and Art) on the other hand showed a very greatly increased expenditure, 415,545*l.*, upon a total of over 10,000,000*l.*, the greater portion of the

increase being due to payments of school grants on account of elementary education. On Class V. (Foreign and Colonial Services) a considerable reduction chiefly in connection with the revised administration of Bechuanaland had been effected, but in Class VI. (Non-effective Services) the automatic growth of the pension list, swelled by the compulsory retirement of Civil servants at an earlier age, imposed a slightly additional charge.

The following table will show an abstract of the Estimates for each class of the coming as compared with the grants for the current year :—

Class.	1896-7.	1895-6. Grants in Sessions of 1895.	Net Estimates, 1896-7, compared with Grants, 1895-6.		Estimated Receipts (Cash and Stamps) not Appropriated in Aid of Votes.	
	Net.	Net.	Increase.	Decrease.	1896-7.	1895-6.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
I.	1,912,852	1,787,148	125,704	—	56	50
II.	2,131,526	2,141,477	—	9,951	574,131	571,149
III.	3,736,033	3,783,775	—	47,742	543,125	567,647
IV.	10,489,249	10,073,706	415,543	—	1,765	1,970
V.	736,306	841,901	—	105,595	1,160	1,180
VI.	730,185	710,658	19,527	—	5	5
VII.	58,889	157,310	—	98,421	70	—
	19,795,040	19,495,975	560,774	261,709	1,120,312	1,142,001
			Net Increase, 299,065 <i>l.</i>		Decrease, 21,689 <i>l.</i>	

The sum required for the Revenue Departments for the year 1896-7 was 13,712,755*l.*, showing an increase of 339,123*l.*, or about 2½ per cent., over the previous year. In this was included the cost of an increased staff to carry out the Finance Act, 1894, estimated at 32,989*l.* for the Inland Revenue; above 100,000*l.* required by the Post Office for the increased payment in the conveyance of mails and for additional staff to meet the ordinary wants of business, and upwards of 300,000*l.* required by the Telegraph Department for the construction of new submarine cables to France and Germany and to meet the expenditure entailed by the transfer of the Trunk Telephone lines from the National Telephone Company to the Post Office.

In accordance with the promise given at the opening of the session papers had been laid before Parliament showing the efforts made by Lord Rosebery and Lord Salisbury to obtain redress for the persecuted Armenians. There was, however, a general desire not to embarrass the Government in the course of negotiations still pending, and a formal debate was deprecated by the leaders on both sides. It was, however, open to any member to ask for information on points raised by the papers laid before Parliament, as well as to give expression to the general feeling of the House. The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Hon. G. Curzon (*Southport, Lancashire*), in reply to questions

(Feb. 17) clearly indicated the difficulties in which this country had found itself at the very outset. Any attempt of Great Britain to intervene in Turkey, even if it could have effected anything against the Porte, would have aroused the resentment of the other European Powers, and probably would have precipitated a European war. Overtures had certainly been made to Russia, but Prince Lobanoff had spontaneously and distinctly intimated that Russia was unwilling to undertake responsibility for the maintenance of order in any part of the Sultan's dominions. This statement reported in the despatch of August 9 was in reply to an inquiry from the Secretary of State on August 5. Her Majesty's Government had no knowledge of any invitation either by the Sultan or by the other European Powers having been addressed to Russia to occupy and police those provinces of Asiatic Turkey in which massacres had chiefly occurred. The occupation by any European Power without the consent of the Sultan would, said Mr. Curzon, be a violation of the treaties of Paris and Berlin.

A fortnight later the Armenian question was again brought before the House of Commons (Mar. 3) in the form of a resolution moved by Mr. S. Smith (*Flintshire*), a Liberal Unionist, and seconded by Sir John Kennaway (*Honiton, Devon.*), a Conservative, as innocent in its form as the debate which it evoked. It was to the effect that this House expressed its deep sympathy with the sufferings of the Christian population in Asiatic Turkey, and trusted that further endeavours would be made to ameliorate their lot. Mr. Smith maintained that the massacres were not the result of provocation on the part of the Armenians, but were deliberately planned and carried out by the authorities of the various towns who were in direct communication with Constantinople. He did not blame her Majesty's Government for not going further than they did, because it would be folly to incur the risk of a European war, but this country would occupy a degraded position if she stood quietly by and watched the gradual extermination of the Armenians. He expressed an opinion that the only way to induce Russia to protect the Armenians was to give her a port in the Mediterranean. The only policy worthy of a country like England was to hasten on the day when the barbarous Ottoman Government would come to an end, and we ought to endeavour to make a friend of Russia.

Sir E. Ashmead Bartlett (*Ecclesall, Sheffield*), who had earned a reputation for championing causes which found few other defenders, protested against the offensive language used in this House and in the country with regard to the Sultan and the Turkish Government. He asserted that for years past the Armenians had leagued together to annoy, to despoil, and to kill their Turkish neighbours wherever they could safely do so, in order to provoke such a state of affairs as would compel the intervention of Christian Europe on their behalf. The sooner

we reverted to the policy of 1878 the better it would be for this country, for the Ottoman Empire, for Europe, and, above all, for the unfortunate Armenians.

On the other hand Sir Edward Grey (*Berwick, Northumberland*), who had earned great distinction as Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in the previous Administration, speaking under a fuller knowledge of facts and with a sense of responsibility, viewed the situation from a very different standpoint. He thought that any attempt to gloss over what had occurred in Armenia was tantamount to placing on the oppressed responsibility which properly belonged to the oppressors, and this could do nothing but add discredit to the debate. He wished to draw a distinction between the policy of the late Government and that of the present Government. When the late Government resigned circumstances had not arisen which obliged them to declare that this country would act alone. At that time no hint had been given that independent action on our part would be resented by Russia. Besides, there was then no reason to suppose that another series of massacres was impending. The present Government had stated that if they acted at all they would have to act, not only alone, but in defiance of the other Powers, and that such action would lead to complications and bloodshed in the midst of which the Armenian question would be lost sight of altogether. When so grave a statement was made by the responsible Government of the day the Opposition had no choice but to acquiesce in it. Whatever part we took in the counsels of Europe with regard to the future of the Turkish Empire, we ought to do our utmost to prevent the perpetuation of such misgovernment as we had heard of. Whatever settlement was made we should strive to obtain effective guarantees for the protection of those subjects of the Porte who were most exposed to oppression and cruelty.

Mr. Curzon, replying on behalf of the Government, maintained that if the House fairly considered the exigencies by which her Majesty's Government were confronted they must come to the conclusion that no more successful course could have been adopted than that actually taken. He was glad the terms of the resolution had been altered, as the Government were prepared to accept it in its present shape; but Sir Edward Grey must not assume that they thought it possible to do anything for the Armenians by force of arms. While he had no desire to make this a party question, he could not avoid saying that the question of reforms, on which everything had subsequently hung, was raised by the late Administration in the first instance. The combination between England, France, and Russia was also due to their initiative, and at a very early stage of the proceedings they were well aware of the difficulties with which that combination was certain to be confronted. Sir E. Grey and the Government of which he was a member knew

perfectly well that Russia would not join us in any restraint, and the contention that when the late Administration quitted office the time had not arrived for applying force was not compatible with the facts of the Blue Book. When Lord Salisbury came into office he sought to replace the fortuitous combination of the three Powers by the unanimous concert of Europe, but he admitted that that concert was not so effective as we could have wished. We were confronted with the solid fact that the other Powers, both individually and collectively, were resolved to maintain the *status quo*, and wished to avoid a European war at all hazards, and he did not think any one in the House would pretend that her Majesty's Government could have taken isolated action in such circumstances. If we had acted by ourselves we should have been acting, not as statesmen or philanthropists, but as public misdemeanants. Throughout the proceedings Russia and Austria had persisted in seeing behind our action something that was not in it, and refused to believe that we were merely influenced by disinterested motives; and we received the clearest intimation as far back as July 3 that the Russian Government were averse from undertaking the responsibility of administration in any part of the Turkish dominions. After ridiculing the idea of giving Russia a port in the Mediterranean, Mr. Curzon assured the House that her Majesty's Government had done all they could for the Armenians, and that they would not abate their efforts in the future. They were not prepared, however, to jeopardise the interests of this country and of the Armenians themselves in the pursuit of what would have been a perilous, if not a fatal, philanthropy.

Mr. H. M. Stanley (*Lambeth, N.*) brought to the support of Sir E. Ashmead Bartlett the fruits of his African experience, and, to the surprise of his hearers, announced that he thoroughly believed, after reading the Blue Books, that the Sultan was entirely innocent of the charge of inciting his soldiers to proceed to such terrible extremities, and indeed he clearly perceived that the Sultan had endeavoured to the best of his power to repress the disturbances. He sympathised with the Armenians as long as they suffered like Christians, but when they became rebels they must expect the fate of rebels.

On the other hand, Mr. Bryce (*Aberdeen, S.*), whose acquaintance with the Armenian people was more intimate than that of any other member, took the opposite line, and, in his zeal for his friends, indirectly censured the treatment they had received at the hands of his colleagues in the late Cabinet. At any rate, he showed no sympathy for the Turkish Government, and suggested that the object of some of the massacres was to make the promised reforms of no value by exterminating the Christian population. It was at all events a significant circumstance that nearly all the massacres took place in the provinces to which the reforms were to be applied. He utterly denied that the

massacres were the result of Armenian disturbances or revolutions. From the language used by the Government he assumed that they had abandoned all hope of doing anything for the persecuted Armenian Christians, and he trusted that Englishmen would never again speak of the Turks as our allies.

Shortly afterwards the debate came to an end, Sir W. Harcourt having been absent throughout its course, either with the object of leaving to others the defence of his colleague Lord Rosebery's policy, or because the matter was one of indifference to him and to the party which he represented.

On a subsequent day (Mar. 30) the Armenian question was again brought forward by Mr. T. G. Bowles (*King's Lynn*), who moved a resolution affirming that it was the duty of her Majesty's advisers to take such steps as might be required to fulfil her Majesty's treaty engagements relative to the Ottoman Empire, entered into for the security of her Majesty's Oriental possessions.

This proposal led to a desultory debate, but not to any practical conclusion. On behalf of the Government, Mr. Curzon (*Southport, Lancashire*) defended the action of Sir Philip Currie at Constantinople, maintaining that in what our ambassador had done or written there was nothing to show any prejudice or prepossession on his part against the Porte. The relations between Sir P. Currie and the Sultan had not been disturbed by any protest, and there was absolutely nothing to give colour to the report that Sir P. Currie had treated the Sultan with discourtesy. Inasmuch as the Sultan had failed to fulfil his part of the Cyprus Convention, it was not incumbent upon us to fulfil the counterpart. Her Majesty's Government felt themselves bound to resist the resolution.

The ex-Solicitor-General, Sir R. Reid (*Dumfries Burghs*), took a more independent line, and insisted that the Government of Turkey was responsible for the dreadful massacres of Christians in Armenia, and that it was monstrous for any one to suppose that England ought to support a Government like that. It was the manifest destiny of Russia that she should overrun a part of Turkey, and the sooner she did so the better.

In this he was warmly supported by another ex-minister, Mr. Bryce (*Aberdeen, S.*), who held that the present was not a fitting time for re-establishing cordial relations with a sovereign who had put to death some 50,000 of his innocent subjects. Turkey had forfeited all claim to the sympathy or to the material support of this country.

Mr. Courtney (*Bodmin, Cornwall*) thought that the only useful outcome of the discussion was the clear statement made by the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Curzon), that an obligation towards Turkey under the Cyprus Convention had practically ceased to exist. That was the only treaty under which we had entered into any obligation with Turkey—for he demurred strongly to the suggestion that we were in any way

bound by the Tripartite Treaty, agreed to by the country immediately after the Treaty of Paris with France and Austria. The reciprocal obligation under that treaty having totally disappeared, we were no longer bound by its conditions. The debate having then wandered back to the time of the Crimean War, some anxiety was felt as to the expediency of discussing points which although full of historical interest might lead to the expression of views which it was expedient to keep in the background; and on a hint from the leader of the House, Mr. Bowles expressed his readiness to withdraw his resolution.

In point of fact our relations with the Sultan had become more than ever complicated by the suddenly changed aspect of affairs in Egypt and the Soudan, where it was asserted the Dervish troops or Mahdists were threatening the Egyptian forces garrisoning Wady Halfa and the Upper Nile. It was therefore decided by the Egyptian Sirdar, General Kitchener, to push forward the main body of the troops at his disposal to Dongola, and by this step to assure the Egyptian frontier and at the same time to relieve Kassala, held by the Italians, but threatened by the Dervishes. How far this policy reflected the wishes of the English Cabinet cannot be said, but it certainly made it appear that England, although not belonging to the Triple Alliance, was prepared to do for Italy more than either of her co-partners.

The advance on Dongola, however, although undertaken nominally by the Egyptian Government, had been approved by the Foreign Office, and explanations were at once demanded in Parliament. Mr. Curzon, in reply to Sir William Harcourt (Mar. 16), read a long and carefully prepared statement of the views and intentions of the Government. For some weeks previously, he said, the Government had received rumours of large contemplated advances by the Dervish forces. Those advances were in the direction of Murad Wells and upon Kokreb, which was midway between Berber and Suakin, and the Government also heard that Osman Digna was advancing with considerable forces in the direction of Kassala. The news reached the Government at the end of February, and all this information, in the opinion of the Government in Egypt and at home, portended a serious advance on the part of the Dervishes, the immediate object of which was, or might be, Kassala, but the ultimate danger resulting from which could not fail to react upon Egypt itself. Considerable anxiety was felt at this serious news, especially as the Italian forces were known to be in difficulties upon the western shores of the Red Sea. Then came the unfortunate event at Adowa, and there was no one in this country who did not hear the news of the Italian reverse with feelings of sympathy and regret. (At this there were loud cries of "No, no," from members sitting below the gangway on the Opposition side.) Mr. Curzon proceeded to say that the unanimity of that feeling in this

country could not be broken by a few dissentient voices in the House, and, in point of fact, our people deeply regretted the misfortune which had befallen a nation of gallant soldiers who were our staunch allies, and sincerely hoped that the Italian troops would vindicate the honour of their flag. The disaster at Adowa was attended with some danger to Egypt, for the Italians were not only engaged in conflicts with the Abyssinian troops, but they had an advanced force in occupation of the fort at Kassala, which was threatened, if not beleaguered, by about 10,000 Dervishes. It was obvious, indeed, that there were at the present moment influences at work and forces unchained in Africa which, if flushed by victory, might constitute a very serious danger not merely to Italy or to Egypt or to the British position in Egypt, but to the cause of Europe, which was the cause of civilisation in that part of the world. The Government had been in constant communication with the Egyptian Government, and it was the opinion of the military authorities, both here and there, that immediate action was required to be taken. It was accordingly decided that it would be both for the present and for the permanent interests of Egypt that an advance should be made up the Valley of the Nile. That advance had been ordered to the post of Akasheh, which was on the river at about one-third of the distance between Wady Halfa and Dongola. The British advance might ultimately extend to Dongola; but, of course, it was not usual to publish our plans of campaign. At any rate, the future action of the Government must be regulated by considerations, not merely military and strategical, but also political and financial, which he could not possibly enter into in answer to a question in the House. The Government firmly hoped that the step upon which they had decided would have a twofold advantage—first, that it would act as a diversion for the help and relief of the Italians in their sore distress at Kassala; and, secondly, that it would save Egypt from a menace which, if left to grow, might before long swell to most formidable dimensions.

Mr. Balfour having promised that full opportunity should be given for discussing the Under-Secretary's important statement, the front Opposition bench assented to the postponement of the debate. This, however, did not suit the wishes of the extreme Radical section, which since the beginning of the session had been vainly seeking for an occasion to assert its independence of the front benches. Mr. Labouchere (*Northampton*), the recognised mouthpiece of the malcontents, at once rose to move the adjournment of the House in order to call attention to a definite matter of urgent public importance, *viz.*, the steps being taken by the Government to direct a movement of Egyptian troops in the direction of Dongola. After explaining at considerable length what was our position with regard to the Soudan, Mr. Labouchere asserted that he was a warm friend of

Italy in Italy, but not of Italy in Africa. His sympathies were with the men to whom Africa belonged, and who were struggling against a foreign invasion, and he was heartily glad that the Italians had been vanquished. The war was forced upon Italy by Signor Crispi in order to divert attention from the internal affairs of the country, and it had always been protested against by all true Italian patriots and Radicals. The proposed advance into the Soudan would be practically to anchor us in Egypt for the next hundred years. In his opinion our real object in going there was to place ourselves in such a position that we should be unable to fulfil the pledges we had given to Europe, and especially to France.

Sir Charles Dilke (*Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire*) warmly supported his Radical colleague. As ex-Under-Secretary he had acquired considerable knowledge of Egyptian affairs at the time of the bombardment of Alexandria, which led to the collapse of the condominium with France. He now dilated on the imprudence, the unwisdom, and the folly of the expedition, and expressed his belief that throughout Europe our enemies would think the advance was being made really in order that we might have an excuse for staying in Egypt for all time.

The immediate object of the Radicals, however, was to force the front bench to break openly with them, or to follow in the line they had marked out. Sir W. Harcourt was too astute a party leader to allow personal feeling to influence his action. He at once fell into the mood of the proposer and seconder of the resolution. He considered that of all the occurrences which had come to the knowledge of the public in the course of the last few months none was more fraught with dangerous consequences in the future than that just announced by her Majesty's Government. It was said that this was only a small and necessary military movement for the purpose of averting danger arising out of recent circumstances. If that were the true interpretation of the matter it might pass over without serious consequences. On the other hand, if this were the first step in a forward policy in Egypt, such a policy must be one of a most perilous character, and would by the party on the Opposition side of the House be met with the most steadfast resistance.

Mr. Balfour maintained his previously expressed opinion that the House would be better qualified to pronounce an opinion on the policy of the Government after a few days' interval. Meanwhile he took the opportunity to confess that the differences of opinion between himself and Mr. Labouchere were most profound and far-reaching. The honourable member rejoiced at the defeat of the Italians, but that was not the view of a single man on the ministerial side of the House, nor was it the view of the vast majority of the gentlemen sitting on the other side. He doubted whether the world had ever seen a more cruel or a worse rule than that now exercised over the

tribes in the Soudan, and he could conceive no change more beneficial than the transference of their allegiance to a Government acting under English influences. It was not a loss but a gain to civilisation that Egyptian influence should be extended southwards, and that some relief should be given, if possible, to the sorely pressed forces of Italy now fighting for their lives.

After some further remarks from both sides of the House Mr. Labouchere's motion was negatived by 268 to 126 votes.

It was not, however, the intention of the Opposition, notwithstanding this strong expression of opinion, to forego the full-dress debate which had been promised them, and Mr. J. Morley was selected to move what was practically a vote of want of confidence in Lord Salisbury's foreign policy. Before opening the debate (Mar. 20) Mr. T. P. O'Connor (*Scotland, Liverpool*) inquired whether the military movement sanctioned by the British Government in Egypt was influenced by representations from the Italian Government, and Mr. Morley (*Montrose Burghs*) asked whether a majority of the Commissioners of the Caisse of the Public Debt was competent to sanction any expenditure proposed to be made therefrom. Mr. Curzon in reply to the former question said that the decision of her Majesty's Government was undoubtedly influenced by the communications received from the Italian Government as to the prospects of an attack by the Dervishes on the Italian position at Kassala, and the effect that this might have on the military situation and upon Egyptian interests. In reply to Mr. Morley he explained that there were two funds—one, the larger, derived from the conversion, for the expenditure of which the unanimous consent of the Powers was required; while the other, a smaller one, amounting now to about 2,500,000*l.*, could be disposed of by the majority of the Caisse.

Mr. Morley's speech in moving his vote of censure on the proposed expedition up the Nile was one of the best, in form and arrangement, that he had ever delivered in the House of Commons. It was closely reasoned; it showed a painstaking effort to master the facts; it subjected to an incisive criticism all the weak points that could be discovered in the proceedings of the Government. It also deserved the praise of earnestness and consistency. He might, as he said, also claim to be impartial, for in 1885 he had moved a vote of censure on Mr. Gladstone's Government, condemning that minister's intervention in the Soudan and their Egyptian policy. The main question to be determined was whether the new policy was intended for the defence of the frontier against possible raids, or whether it meant something more. If the selected telegrams which had been read by the Under-Secretary formed the foundation of the case of the Government, he did not think the House had been treated with proper frankness and confidence. He contended that no danger to the Egyptian frontier could be

seriously alleged or inferred from the information contained in those telegrams, which merely referred to flying rumours. So hazardous a proposal as that made by her Majesty's Government had never before been justified by reasons so meagre, so irrelevant, and so hollow. The hypothesis of the Government was that Mahdism would be stimulated by the defeat of the Italians at Adowa, and that this constituted a new danger to Egypt. If so, he submitted that the military plans of her Majesty's Government were ludicrously and dangerously inadequate. He hoped some light would be shed on the political and financial considerations referred to by the Under-Secretary, for at present there had been only an ambiguous, equivocal, vague, and incomprehensible declaration of policy. They got, indeed, misty glimpses of policy, but a firm statement of the views and objects with which the Government embarked on this course had not yet been given either by Mr. Balfour or by Mr. Curzon. It might, however, be gathered from the statements already made, that the advance towards Dongola marked definitely a new departure of some kind, and they wanted to know what was the object of that new departure. From the language used by the leader of the House, it might be fairly inferred that the expedition was intended to extend Egyptian influence southwards; but it was certain that the Soudanese would resist with might and main the restoration of anything like Egyptian rule.

Mr. Balfour, interposing, intimated that he had never contemplated the reintroduction into the Soudan of the kind of Egyptian rule which once prevailed there.

Mr. J. Morley assumed that to mean that an English, or at least an Anglicised, administration would be introduced. While he was a well-wisher to the Italian Government, he could not admit that because they had engaged in an impolitic undertaking we ought to embark on an impolitic enterprise also. He therefore censured the Government for reopening the Egyptian question without first consulting the other great Powers.

Although the question involved was rather one of foreign than of colonial politics, the defence of the Ministry was undertaken by Mr. Chamberlain (*Birmingham, W.*), who remarked that those who adversely criticised the Government were, like the last speaker, in favour of an immediate or an early evacuation of Egypt. Of course if it was our duty to scuttle out of Egypt at the earliest possible moment, it did not at all matter whether that country was in danger or whether she had an impregnable frontier at Wady Halfa. In point of fact, every argument adduced that night and on previous occasions was tainted by this preconceived idea of certain honourable members that our duty was to have nothing more to do with Egypt. For his own part, he did not think there was anything in our recent history to which we could look back with greater pride and satisfaction than to the peaceful revolution accomplished

in Egypt by a handful of British administrators and officers, supported in the last resort by the strength of the British Empire. Moreover, all well-informed persons agreed that if we were to leave Egypt at the present time all the good which had been accomplished would be undone. He altogether denied that the policy of the Government altered in the slightest degree our position in Egypt, and remarked that if the expedition relieved Egypt from the constant menace of a Dervish invasion that country would be more than compensated for the expenditure which was contemplated. We ought to consider this matter in the interests not of the Soudan but of Egypt, and no one could doubt that the ideal of all patriotic Egyptian statesmen was the recovery of the Soudan. However, the present and the practical policy of Egypt was the defence of the frontier of Egypt proper, and although he admitted that the desert in front of Wady Halfa was a barrier against conquest, he must point out that it was also a screen for raids and incursions. The disastrous defeat of the Italians at Adowa had created a new situation, as it had increased a dangerous ferment among the Dervishes ; and it was the opinion of all the authorities that if Kassala were to fall the effect upon Egyptian interests might be altogether incalculable. That was the cause of the new policy, or rather of the development of the policy, of her Majesty's Government. In fact, the interests of Egypt and of Italy in this matter were inseparable, and it was the wisest policy to anticipate a possible attack by the Dervishes upon Egypt itself. Italy had thoroughly appreciated the course we had taken, and cordially thanked us for it. At all events, our present policy did not find us isolated in Europe. Germany had supported us. Austria had warmly approved our policy, and Italy had cordially received the announcement. As to France and Russia, they were awaiting replies, and it would be unwise and discourteous on his part to anticipate what their ultimate decision might be. Our advance into the Soudan would be limited by two considerations—*viz.*, the security of the communications which we could maintain, and the nature and extent of the resistance which we might have to encounter. The railway to Akasheh would provide the means of communication, and we should not hand back to barbarism any territory that we might recover for civilisation ; but, on the other hand, the Government did not contemplate gigantic military efforts, as their policy was confined to what they believed to be the immediate needs of Egypt.

After numerous members had expressed their views, including Mr. H. M. Stanley (*Lambeth, N.*), who hoped our troops would eventually advance to Khartoum, the Foreign Office views were expressed by Mr. Curzon, who said the question of evacuating Egypt had been decided, at any rate for the present, not merely by the opinion of the occupants of the Treasury bench, but by the policy of those who now sat on the

other side of the House. Turning to the narrower issue raised by the amendment, he invited the House to contrast the pictures presented to them in the speeches of gentlemen on the Opposition side with the actual facts, and he pointed out that there was no resemblance between the lurid phantasmagoria conjured up by active imaginations and the sober realities of the case. Her Majesty's Government contended that the projected movement was necessary in order to save Egypt from danger, as there was a general ferment among the Dervishes of the Upper Soudan. All promises to evacuate Egypt had been made conditionally. No Government would evacuate Egypt until they had secured the country against the danger of external attack, against the danger of internal anarchy and disorder, and against the recurrence of native maladministration. Surely no honourable member was prepared to assert that those conditions had yet been fulfilled. The proposed forward movement was inseparable from and part of the work we were undertaking in Egypt. That work had not been done for exclusively British objects, and our policy had not been one of selfish or arrogant monopoly. Our task was not to rule Egypt, but to teach the Egyptians how to rule themselves. In that task, he declared, we should persevere until it had been accomplished, and the military expedition now contemplated would be one of the conditions and evidences of our success.

Sir Wm. Harcourt (*Monmouthshire, W.*) made a brilliant attack upon the various pleas put forward by the apologists of the Government policy. He taunted the Under-Secretary with saying that England could not do what she had pledged herself to do. He would state his own view on the subject of the evacuation of Egypt in the words of Lord Salisbury's Government, who drew up a convention under which Egypt would have been evacuated six years ago without conquering the Soudan. Adverting to the policy of the projected expedition, Sir W. Harcourt expressed his conviction that its inevitable result would be an advance to Khartoum. That would, of course, be a large order to lay before the country at once, and therefore it was deemed expedient to shadow forth a different policy. He believed the ideal policy sketched by the Secretary of State for the Colonies was the real object of the Government, but Mr. Chamberlain also described a practical policy which was to be limited by the amount of resistance. Was ever such a policy offered to the English nation? Her Majesty's Government announced beforehand that if they met with any resistance they would not go any farther. In reality the policy of her Majesty's Government meant that they were entering upon a long and an uncertain future. They were lifting up our anchor on a very perilous shore, not knowing where we were going to drift. The country already regarded with just alarm this uncalled-for addition to the anxieties by which we were surrounded, and he believed they would condemn a policy

which, at a time when we ought to be occupied with collecting and consolidating our resources at home, would have for its object to engage the interests and the forces of England in the midst of the deserts of Africa.

Mr. Balfour replied very briefly to the effect that in the course her Majesty's Government were taking there was nothing that need excite the smallest feeling of suspicion or alarm in the breast of any Frenchman. Her Majesty's Government held that the position of Egypt could not be regarded as satisfactory until the control of that country over the Soudan had been re-established. This was not an advance to be followed by a retreat. They meant to advance, and where they advanced they meant to stay, and everything that was gained for Egypt by the expedition would be gained for ever. Considering all the circumstances of the case, and considering our relations to all the forces now active in the Soudan and in Egypt, her Majesty's Government were distinctly of opinion that in the interests of Egypt, and of Egypt alone, they were well advised in initiating the policy on which the committee was now asked to pronounce.

The division showed by 288 to 145 votes that on this question of foreign policy the confidence of the Unionists in Lord Salisbury's diplomacy was unshaken, but the most immediate result of his policy was the refusal of the Russian and French Governments to allow the use of the Egyptian Reserve Fund for the advance to Dongola on the plea that the security for the Egyptian Debt would thereby be lessened. Germany, Austria and Italy, however, voted with England on the question, for in view of the timely diversion created by our advance up the Nile the pressure upon Italy in Abyssinia was relieved, and Italy might fairly claim from her partners in the Triple Alliance support for the Power which had succoured her.

By common consent no debate was raised upon the pending question with reference to the Transvaal and President Krüger's acts, or to Venezuela and the intervention of the United States. The trial of Dr. Jameson and his companions was commenced and furnished sufficient reason for reticence; while pending the report of the United States Commission, negotiations between this country and Venezuela were left in a state of suspended animation.

Apart from the Benefices Bill, introduced by Lord Cranborne (*Rochester*) (Mar. 11), the proceedings of the House of Commons other than those already referred to offered but little interest. The principle of this bill had been already adopted by the House in a previous session and its details had been discussed by the Grand Committee. It was therefore expected that although brought forward by a private member—the Premier's son—it would find no difficulty in passing into law. Its objects, moreover, were such as, it was thought, would commend it to Dissenters as well as to Churchmen. Its leading

principle was that patronage was a trust which should not be exercised without regard to the welfare of the parishioners concerned. It proposed to abolish the sale of next presentations, to suspend the right of patronage for a year after the purchase of an advowson, and to give the bishop power, subject to appeal, to refuse admission to unfit incumbents. The second reading, although eventually carried by 259 to 81 votes, gave rise to considerable discussion, the friends of the clergy opposing it because it went too far, and the Dissenters because it did not go far enough.

The debate on the Benefices Bill, however, was specially interesting, because it foreshadowed in a way the reception which awaited the more important Education Bill, on which the Ministry had staked a great portion of their credit. It had been expected that the bill would have been introduced immediately after the debate on the address had closed, and as week followed week without any sign of its appearance, it began to be rumoured that the negotiations with the representatives of various bodies to be conciliated—the bishops and clergy, the Roman Catholics and the Dissenters—had failed to furnish the Government with a basis of compromise on which to construct their great measure. At length on the very eve of the adjournment for the Easter recess (Mar. 31), the Vice-President of the Council, Sir J. Gorst (*Cambridge University*), moved for leave to bring in a bill to make further provision for education in England and Wales. In a lucid and comprehensive speech Sir J. Gorst explained the lines of a bill which, as his predecessor in office described, would produce the most enormous change in the educational system ever seen in this country, regarding it apparently as more revolutionary than Mr. Forster's act of 1870. Sir J. Gorst began by stating that in the previous year the voluntary schools educated 2,445,812 children, as against 1,879,218 educated in the board schools. For his own part he believed that the existence of voluntary schools was an advantage to the State, but whatever view of this subject might be taken was not of great importance to practical statesmen, because the voluntary schools were actually in existence, and there was little prospect of their disappearing within a definite time. The Roman Catholics and a large proportion of the members of the Church of England made it a point of conscience that their children should be educated by teachers of their own denomination, and it would be impossible to force those children into board schools without being guilty of religious intolerance. Another obstacle to the disappearance of the voluntary schools was the cost of replacing them, which was estimated at 25,345,635*l.* In addition to that the maintenance of the schools involved an annual expenditure of 2,250,000*l.* There was no doubt that many of the voluntary schools were as good as any in the country. The inspectors informed him, however, that most of the voluntary schools,

especially the Roman Catholic schools, in the poorest parts of great cities laboured under financial difficulties. Besides having less qualified teachers, voluntary schools were, as a rule, understaffed, and they only just complied with the minimum recommendations of the Committee of Council. After describing the existing state of things in the Education Department, Sir J. Gorst came to the provisions of the bill itself, the principle of which, he explained, was the establishment in every county and county borough of a paramount education authority. This was to be one channel through which public money was to reach the schools. It was to supplement and not to supersede existing educational effort, and it was to be a sort of separate Education Department for each county and county borough. Then it was proposed that the education authority should be the County Council acting through a statutory educational committee, and the number and composition of this committee would be left entirely in the discretion of the County Council, subject only to the condition that the majority of its members must be also members of the council. It was intended to decentralise the administration of school grants by the Education Department and to throw upon those bodies the duty of administering the parliamentary grant. The general inspection of schools would be undertaken by the county authority, and the Committee of Council—the central government—would only have inspectors who would visit the schools from time to time in order to see that the county education authority was properly fulfilling its duties, and that the education was up to the proper standard. Next, it was proposed to hand over to this committee the powers of the County Council under the Technical Instruction Act, 1889. The money received under the Local Taxation Act, 1890, would be specially applicable to secondary education, and would be administered by the education authority, and might be accumulated. This authority would also be the school attendance committee in all places which had not a school board. Lastly, this authority would exercise all the powers given to the County Council in regard to industrial and reformatory schools, and might make contracts with boards of guardians to take charge of poor law children. This authority was to contribute a special aid grant to necessitous schools. The committee would receive from the Exchequer the sum of 4s. for every child in voluntary schools, or in the schools of those school boards which came under the 97th section of the act of 1870. There was a power given to schools to federate themselves either by districts or denominations. After describing other clauses in minute detail, the Vice-President hoped the bill would create a system under which all those parts of a county in which there were public schools would be connected with and under the authority of the county education authority, and would be maintained out of the general county rate. As regards secondary education, the new authority

would be able to aid schools out of the money at its disposal, and to establish them; and with the assent of the Education Department it might take a transfer from the school boards of their higher grade schools. The bill likewise contained a number of miscellaneous amendments of the Education Act, and he would briefly enumerate them. There was the abolition of the 17s. 6d. limit, and there was also a clause exempting elementary schools from rates. Then the age of school attendance was raised to twelve years. Powers were given to the county authorities to lend money to the managers of voluntary schools on the security of the school buildings, and there were limits put to the school board rate. Finally, the Government had inserted a clause in the bill with the hope of removing the religious difficulty. This clause he described as a sort of supplement to the conscience clause. It not only enabled a parent to withdraw his child from religious instruction of which he did not approve, but it also helped him to secure that religious instruction which he required. The provision was that in every elementary school one of the conditions of receiving a Government grant was that if a reasonable number of parents required to have separate religious instruction given to their children, it should be the duty of the managers to permit of reasonable arrangements being made for allowing that religious instruction to be given. In conclusion, Sir J. Gorst expressed a hope that this measure might be accepted by the House as a sincere attempt on the part of the Government to introduce a system of perfect religious toleration.

The Opposition, speaking through Mr. Acland (*Rotherham, Yorkshire*) and Mr. Bryce (*Aberdeen, S.*), whilst anticipating a revival of the strife anent religious education, cordially welcomed the plan of entrusting secondary education, including grants for technical instruction, to local bodies. The strongest opponent of the bill was Mr. Channing (*Northants, E.*), who took up the ground that its aim was to cover the country with a network of clerical school boards. The bill was then read a first time.

Outside Parliament some few speeches had been made, chiefly by the leaders of the Opposition, and intended to keep up the spirits of the party which had fared so badly at the elections of the previous year. At a meeting of the Eighty Club (Mar. 3) the guest of the evening, Lord Rosebery, after a graceful compliment to the chairman, Sir Edward Grey, who had been his Under-Secretary, then went on to recommend "concentration" as the policy of the Liberal party. Discussing next the position of the Government and its supporters, he doubted whether there was quite so much enthusiasm about South African affairs as there had been.

They were told that the Government had made a great stroke of policy in the Transvaal, but as the details oozed out it appeared not to be quite so certain that our heaven-born

ministers had been able to counteract "the Dutch rural simplicity of our old friend President Krüger." On the whole, the increase in the Naval Estimates was, he thought, justifiable, but "let us see that we got full value for our money." With regard to the new rules of procedure, Lord Rosebery said they would not really subject the votes in Supply to a searching criticism until they could be discussed by grand or standing committees outside the walls of the House of Commons, "with the necessary permanent officials in attendance."

The foreign part of Lord Rosebery's speech, after a gibe about the policy of the Government in Siam being a repudiation of all they had said in Opposition, was chiefly taken up with the Armenian problem. After asking whether our friendship either with Austria or Italy stood where it did when he left office, Lord Rosebery went on to assail Lord Salisbury for having used menacing language to the Sultan after he knew that Russia would not allow him to back his words by action. After a kindly compliment to Mr. Watson, the poet, Lord Rosebery closed his speech with a peroration more impassioned than was his wont. It had come to this, he said, that after nearly twenty centuries of Christianity, we were prepared to let the Christians be massacred by barbarous Kurds, "directed or connived at by a still more barbarous Government."

A few days later (Mar. 12), speaking at the National Liberal Club, Lord Rosebery bantered the Government upon its methods of conducting its work. He asked if there really was a Cabinet at all in the present Administration. From November 6 until January 11 no Cabinet meeting took place, and in the interval most grave incidents occurred in our relations with America, the Transvaal, and Germany. It would be said, he went on, that ministers of great repute and ability being in charge of affairs, it was needless to summon the Cabinet, but since the recognised method of governing this country was by a Cabinet why at a peculiar crisis should the constitutional party depart from the practice? How the system of non-Cabinet Government was managed, whether by delegation or correspondence between members, he did not know, but he could say that on the very day when Dr. Jameson surrendered the Colonial Secretary informed a deputation what was the detailed policy of the Government. This point of Cabinet Government ought not to pass unnoticed. As a means of preventing individual ministers from immortalising themselves at the expense of their colleagues, the Cabinet was invaluable, and even Conservatives must wish that it had of late had more efficient control. Since their opponents had a majority it was well that that majority was strong, making the Government strong, but the defeat of the Liberal party was not disastrous, and if it made them consider the causes of their defeat it might be a positive advantage. He did not despond, for the nation remained Liberal, the Tory party having gained

power only by a false liberalism of promises. The election was won by specious cries, which had always been dangerous to their party. Still the existence of the Tory Government imposed on them the duty of criticism, of testing all measures, and of reconsidering their own organisation. As to this last point he would confine himself to saying that elections were won not by a few glowing speeches but by hard work in a constituency, and the absentee lion was always defeated by the resident mouse, and further that spirit, guidance, and organisation always came in their party not from the summit but the base. The parish, the ward, the Liberal club, were the units which must be their sources of guidance, and until these were organised discussion as to the superior parts of the organisation was superfluous.

Whilst Lord Rosebery was cheering the spirits of London Liberals, Sir William Harcourt was similarly engaged in encouraging those in the country districts to take heart. At Bournemouth he delivered (Mar. 11) an excellent fighting speech, in which he found occasion to allude to many of his colleagues and opponents, but made no reference to his titular leader or his special advice to candidates and electors. On the contrary, he seemed to go out of his way to depreciate Lord Rosebery's policy of "concentration." Those who had fought the Liberal battle in the home counties had, he said, by maintaining discipline and union under defeat, shown themselves ready to retrieve their disaster, and though in their special districts their work was hard, for they were missionaries in a strange land, they had held their own. The party generally would, as always, retain its principles. As they had for years fought for the Irish Church Disestablishment until it was achieved, so they would never abandon the principle of "self-government for Ireland." They stood also to their principles of reform of registration and of the House of Lords, and they stood to the principle of temperance. Bishops advocating that cause might, when shown the door by Lord Salisbury, retire gracefully so long as they were guaranteed in the Establishment. The palace and the public-house would make merry together, but the question of drink would not right itself. The deaths from chronic alcoholism were double what they were twenty years ago. Mr. Chamberlain recently said that this question involved the most urgent social reform, yet nothing had been done. The country had been promised a period of repose by this Government, yet we were menaced by an attack on the whole educational system of the country, and by a proposal to revolutionise local rating in favour of the landed interest. The lavish promises made at the time of the election were thrown overboard. Provision for the unemployed and local government for Ireland were heard no more of. Among the baits that figured on Mr. Balfour's canvassing card in East Manchester was the *referendum*, but that also was dropped

since the Tories had kept the House of Lords, which did as well. Nor was there much repose in our foreign policy, which resulted only in splendid isolation. The situation was too grave for free comment; but he might say that our position in regard to Armenian outrages was the fruit of the policy which established the Treaty of Berlin and the Convention of Cyprus. Those instruments were to destroy Russian influence at Constantinople and make us the guarantors of the Asiatic Christians, and to-day Russia had the dominant influence at Constantinople and the Christians were massacred. Lord Beaconsfield's policy was dead as he was. Sir W. Harcourt went on to mention the good relations happily established with France, and spoke of the emptiness of most scares of international animosities, which were often caused by ill-advised speaking and writing. He trusted that the nation would support the Government in their South African policy, and as to the dispute with America, the greatest of our difficulties, he had no doubt that the good sense of both nations would arrive at an early settlement, for which he advocated arbitration.

Turning to domestic matters, he said the Government proposal to relieve agriculture by an adjustment of rates would probably not touch tithe, the chief burden on land, and the help given would go to one class only. Then there was the education question. The settlement of 1870 was threatened by a proposal to endow voluntary schools in the interest of a denominational party and to depress board schools in the competition with them for educational excellence. The two sections of the Government appeared to be divided, but if the overthrow of the settlement of 1870 was intended, the Liberal party would fight to the death. The terms upon which voluntary schools were permitted to be independently managed were that they should be really voluntary, supplying a substantial part of their cost. Yet, while in 1870 subscriptions paid 29 per cent. of the cost, in 1894 they paid only 17 per cent., and the Government contribution had risen from 38 to 74 per cent. There were 1,061 voluntary schools which had no subscriptions, and 1,967 that had less than 5s. per child. He contended that the principle of contribution to these voluntary schools should be maintained, and that if further assistance were given to voluntary schools, the principle of representation in the management must be introduced. As for the board schools, it was stated that voluntary schools could not compete with them. Of course not, because they were too efficient. But a more insidious attack was made on them when they were called irreligious. That charge was false, and he cited the Bishop of Winchester and the Archbishop of Canterbury to show it was. In conclusion, he read a passage from a speech of Mr. Chamberlain, in which he had once said that Liberalism was broad enough to include all friends of progress, and no one would desert it for a party which contained Roman

Catholics, Churchmen, publicans and reactionists, all uniting their discordant voices to form a mutual protection society for assuring to each of its members place, privilege and power. They had lost, he said, the author of this, but cherished the hint and would better the teaching.

The slumbering jealousy between the Liberals and their Radical allies showed itself at the same time in a curious quarrel between the wire-pullers of the two sections of the Opposition. For ten years past the "Liberal Central office," that is, the Whips' office, and the National Liberal Federation or representative council of local committees had used the same secretary and staff, and "cohabited" in the same building, and had not, therefore, been independent of each other. The arrangement suited the leaders, but the Radicals disliked it, and their committee therefore raised the standard of revolt. The National Federation, they said, should have a separate building to work in and a separate staff. When approached on the subject, Sir William Harcourt at first seemed friendly, but on second thoughts declined to give an opinion, and at a meeting of Radical members it was found that there was a great division of sentiment. Decision, therefore, was postponed until after the Huddersfield conference of the party, when the subject was to be threshed out. The quarrel, which in the press at least was rather bitter, was described as "the Radical split," but it was rather a symptom of dissatisfaction of the more advanced section with the ways and policy of the front Opposition bench and the official party leaders.

When, however, the thousand delegates to the National Liberal Federation assembled at Huddersfield (Mar. 26) the malcontents with the existing order of things were conspicuous by their absence. The chairman, Dr. Spence Watson, dismissed the charge against the committee as baseless, declaring that they owed no explanation to anybody. The charge made that the Whips constituted an inner ring controlling the federation, as an organised body, was not dealt with. The primary object of the federation was to ascertain the wishes and desires of the Liberal party from time to time, and to provide the leader of the party with a sufficient force of supporters to give effect to those wishes. It was, however, maintained that in such important questions as the choice of the chief Liberal leader, as in the pledge for the renewal of the Irish Home Rule Bill, the federation had been used to endorse the decision of the Cabinet. A special resolution, supporting the principle of the federation and adhering to Lord Rosebery, was unanimously adopted.

On the following day that leader addressed an enthusiastic meeting. After a short allusion to the relations of the official element of the party to the federation, in which, in his experience, the former had always taken a subordinate part, Lord Rosebery said that this was no time to put forward a Liberal programme

or creed, since in Opposition what was wanted was intelligent and far-sighted criticism. The Government, though possessing greater power than any other of modern times, had so far fulfilled none of its promises. As regarded foreign affairs the prospect held out to us of peace abroad had certainly not been realised, and he justified criticism of foreign policy because the Ministry had given nothing else to criticise. He then dealt with the want of continuity in the policy of Lord Salisbury, who, after always leaning in the past towards the Triple Alliance, had, on difficulties arising with Germany, endeavoured by the Siam Convention, which gave us no *quid pro quo*, to secure the good graces of France, and then after six weeks had, in launching the Soudan expedition, outraged French feeling and fallen back again on the Triple Alliance. He asked what this Soudan expedition was for. Not having been undertaken at the request of the Egyptian Government, it was apparently intended to assist Italy. Yet, valuable as the friendship of Italy might be, to gain it by attracting her enemies to attack Egypt was not in the best interest of the latter country. As for the objective of the campaign, different members of the Government gave discordant explanations, and Mr. Chamberlain had among other things said that the expedition would be limited by the resistance encountered and the expense incurred by Egypt. But no expedition once begun could possibly be so limited, and from the different statements made he argued a great want of candour in the Ministry, and believed much uneasiness was felt. The time being one of disturbance and anxiety on all sides, we should be concentrating, not dispersing, our forces. For Egypt itself the same concentration of her resources for her material development was the great need. Willing as he was to support the Government's foreign policy, they gave him no chance of doing so. He then compared the present with the last Ministry—the former, though powerful, repudiating promises made in Opposition; the latter falling because, though committed to too many pledges, it chivalrously endeavoured to carry them out. As instances he contrasted the efforts of his own weak Government to carry out a definite plan for giving Ireland control of its own affairs, and on the temperance question to give an educated population control of the liquor traffic. Altogether the Government, able with its huge majority to do so much, was giving disappointment and discouragement. He concluded by saying that whilst the future of the Liberal party lay with itself, its policy must depend upon what the people required. Liberalism, being a living spirit, would not lie dormant, but again arising would thrill the energies of the people. Without being forced, it should be favoured, taught, and practised.

On the following day (Mar. 28), at a meeting of Liberal agents, Lord Rosebery referred more specifically to the complaints made against the working of the National Liberal

Federation, and defended on the ground of economy the arrangement by which its secretary held a like post in the Central Liberal Association. Lord Rosebery also dealt at some length with the criticisms which the creation of the peerages of Ashton (Mr. Williamson) and Wandsworth (Baron Stern) had evoked, and declared that he would have avoided the recommendation of any persons for peerages had not Mr. Gladstone informed him that pledges had been given in these two cases. The real interest of the conference centred in the question of how the Liberal party was to be worked in view of the future. Lord Rosebery's object was to make it as comprehensive as possible, neither frightening the Moderates nor driving the Progressists into revolt, and to confine its action to criticism of its opponents' measures. Mr. Labouchere, followed by the advanced Radicals, endeavoured on the other hand to force the party to follow the lead of its most violent members, and to push forward at all times the most distinctive features of its programme, in the hope of arousing popular enthusiasm and dragging the more hesitating to support the more adventurous section.

A week or two later, when the House reassembled, the advanced Radicals took the extreme step of forming a separate group. The Committee of Radicals and Labour party which had previously managed, or mismanaged, the tactics of the group, resigned, and a new committee was formed, into which neither Moderates nor ex-ministers were admissible. Mr. Labouchere, who had been the chief leader of this secession, was desirous of forming a group, and whilst protesting against the idea of weakening the Liberal party by a party cleavage, he made no secret of his intention, if he had the power, to force the Moderates to accept the programme of the more advanced section. A week or two later it was announced that the new Radical Committee, composed of twenty members, of whom Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. Labouchere were the most prominent, had issued a manifesto. They declared that it was their desire to compel the Liberal party to abandon the old middle-class conception of Radicalism, and "to secure the sympathy of the working classes by the active promotion of those land, labour and social reforms in which they are profoundly interested, and to which the strongest and most obstinate resistance is offered by the irresponsible and privileged members of the non-elective branch of the Legislature." For this purpose the committee would concentrate their strength on "the effort to abolish the House of Lords," and on constructing a comprehensive system of devolution, or "Home Rule all round," in order "to enable the Imperial Parliament to adequately perform its work," and to insist on this question "being submitted to the constituencies at the next general election in a clear, definite, and specific form."

Of far wider interest than the squabbles of rival groups of

wire-pullers was a speech by Mr. Chamberlain at a dinner of the Canada Club (Mar. 25), in which he expounded his own views, rather than those of the Government, on the great question of colonial federation. After dwelling upon the recent proofs of attachment given to the mother country by the colonies, but especially by Canada, Mr. Chamberlain suggested the possibility of establishing throughout the empire common interests and common obligations—the interests being trade and the obligations imperial defence. The success of the German Zollverein, which from a nucleus of two States combining for commercial purposes had laid the foundations of the modern German Empire, was not to be disregarded. Already the Ottawa Conference of 1894 had recorded its belief in the advisability of a Customs arrangement, and more recently a resolution had been discussed in the Canadian Parliament that a duty should be levied by colonies and mother country alike upon foreign goods. For obvious reasons the resolution, which would involve a large disturbance of the trade of this country, could not be adopted; but Mr. Chamberlain inquired whether an alternative suggestion thrown out by Lord Ripon in his despatch to colonial governors on the Ottawa Conference might not be made the basis of some arrangement. Lord Ripon had hinted that a Customs union might be established, comprising the whole empire, whereby all existing barriers to free commercial intercourse between the various members would be removed, and the aggregate Customs revenue equitably apportioned among the different communities.

Mr. Chamberlain said he was not convinced that the colonies would reject such a proposal merely because it involved the modification of the means by which their revenues were raised, for the advantages to be gained by holding this great market and thereby securing the means to develop their own resources were great enough to make the idea well worth consideration. Under his proposal some exceptions to the main doctrine of open trade within the empire would have to be made—for instance, as regarded tobacco and spirits; but the general principle to be accepted, if any progress was to be gained, was that protection within the empire must disappear, and duties as between different members of it be only revenue duties. If that were conceded a council of the empire could be called, and however difficult the subject, with good-will, some arrangement could be arrived at. If by this plan free-trade principles seemed in one way to suffer, they would be, on the other hand, extended to all parts of an empire whose States were more likely to develop than other countries. He was not laying down a policy; he desired to promote discussion here and in the colonies. Though he looked hopefully to the progress of lands populated by our kin, sentiment would never make an empire unless confirmed by material interest. Imperial unity could only be founded upon a common weal.

As if Mr. Chamberlain's hands were not already full enough with schemes of federation and pacification in various parts of the world, the news arrived just before Parliament rose for the Easter recess of fresh troubles in South Africa. The Matabele people, tried by the ravages of rinderpest and furious against the orders given for the destruction of infected cattle, had risen in rebellion. The withdrawal of the British police, and the defection of the native force, had brought about a critical state of affairs. The white population was hastily taking refuge in Buluwayo and such places as could be placed in a state of defence ; but many Europeans were killed before reaching a place of comparative safety. Mr. Chamberlain at once took energetic means to convey help to the beleaguered settlers ; but to the difficulty of foraging and provisioning any large body of troops was added the impolicy of arousing the susceptibilities of the Boer Government by increasing materially the British troops in South Africa.

CHAPTER III.

Mr. Balfour's Leadership—Mr. Courtney in Cornwall—The Irish Land Bill—Parliament and Private Bills—The Budget—The Agricultural Land Rating Bill—The Lords and the London Water Companies—The Army—The Church in Parliament—The Education Bill before the Public—The Trial of Dr. Jameson at Pretoria—Mr. Chamberlain and President Krüger—The Chartered Company—The Education Bill in the House of Commons—Irish Nationalists and English Nonconformists—The Land Rating Bill in Committee—Bitter Opposition—Sir William Harcourt and Lord Rosebery on the Government Measures—The Duke of Devonshire at Swansea.

THE position of the Ministry when Parliament adjourned for the Easter recess was externally unshaken—possibly even strengthened in public opinion. The clouds which looked so threatening at the session, though, not altogether dispersed, showed signs of lifting, and although no two apologists for the Government could agree as to the objects of the new Nile expedition, it was generally accepted as a proof of indifference to French criticism and German blustering. The progress of negotiations at Constantinople could not be followed except by the doubtful guidance of semi-inspired newspapers. It was hoped that the concert of Europe—to preserve which so many sacrifices were demanded—would ensure more honest rule in Armenia, but it was felt that in such a tangle of conflicting interests it was better to leave Lord Salisbury a free hand. The chief outcome, indeed, of the period of stress and strain through which this country had passed was the increased importance with which Mr. Chamberlain had invested his office. For the first time he had shown that in British politics the Secretary for the Colonies held quite as important a place as the Secretary for Foreign Affairs. The development in France and Germany of a colonial policy was every day raising delicate questions in

which both departments had an equal interest, and as Mr. Chamberlain soon showed, an equal authority. In Central America, as in South Africa, it was our colonists who had been the source of all trouble, and it was the rights of the colonies which had to be defended and defined. Home politics, in the excitement of foreign and colonial questions, were for the moment disregarded, and the dearth of great measures so freely promised was easily condoned by the electors, who possibly had not counted too seriously on candidates' pledges or ministerial programmes. The proposed increase of the Navy had been accepted as the fulfilment of promises made by the party when in Opposition, and with the knowledge that there was a substantial surplus with which to meet the increased expenditure, no objection was made to the proposals of the Government, which at the worst would only involve the maintenance of existing taxes, whilst the principles, and still less the details, of the Education Bill had not been thoroughly grasped by either clergy or laity. Mr. Balfour's new rules of Supply were recognised to be a step in the right direction, and there was even greater concurrence in their aim than was actually expressed. In some other points, however, his leadership was not equally successful, and on more than one occasion he had failed to take account of the demands of debate, and had almost driven some of his own followers into revolt, but his personal qualities were such that he had no difficulty in making his peace with those whose sense of propriety he had shocked by suggesting that it was as profitable to read the report of a speech as to listen to its delivery.

In the short recess granted to the House of Commons the only speech which attracted notice was a strong protest raised by Mr. Courtney against the advance into the Soudan. Addressing his constituents at Bodmin (Apr. 8) he argued that the ideal of the Government, apart from minor purposes such as the relief of the Italians, was the re-conquest of the Soudan; and though he admitted the impossibility of a sudden evacuation of Egypt, he denied, upon the authority of General Gordon and others, the value of the Soudan, and questioned the ability of Egyptian troops to face the Dervishes without the help of Indian forces. He agreed that as guardians for Egypt our duty was not to add a useless possession to her dominions, but to free her from Turkey and to give her the protection of practical isolation. It was only after the waste of lives and money that we should learn that resistance was serious; and even if we penetrated to the midst of the Soudan we should there find a rebellious race detesting both us and the Egyptians. We had plenty on our hands, and unless we abandoned this futile venture we might find that, when we most needed our resources, our armies were far away in the sands of Libya.

In another speech at Liskeard, on the following day, Mr. Courtney counselled patience in waiting for the solution of the problems in the Transvaal, and distrust of the impatience of

those who had provoked the existing difficulties. We could safely trust Mr. Chamberlain to take the best course. We must endeavour to restore between the two races in South Africa the goodwill which Mr. Rhodes had sought to establish and Dr. Jameson had shattered. He felt confident of an ultimate settlement; but he could feel little sympathy with claims for political rights when tainted with share-rigging, and he regretted the feeling expressed here in favour of those who had done the Boers so great a wrong. Respecting the Education Bill, while, like the act of 1870, it could not be final, it was an effort to improve the position of the education question. With regard to the additional grant of 4s. per head to poor schools, he thought that this might with advantage, in the case of board schools, be devoted to the relief of rates.

It was obvious when the House of Commons re-assembled (Apr. 9) that Mr. Balfour had begun to realise the difficulties before him if he intended to adhere to his promise to bring the session to a close before the middle of August. To obtain more time for the Government business it was necessary to encroach upon the hours allotted to private members, and although in the first instance this was done indirectly by morning sittings on Tuesdays, the proposal evoked the usual protest and was only carried by the use of the closure.

The Government at once showed that it intended to turn to practical use the facilities thus obtained, and forthwith (Apr. 13) Mr. Gerald Balfour rose to explain the Irish Land Bill which was to be the message of peace of the Unionist Government to that country. In a speech occupying three hours in delivery the Irish Secretary explained with remarkable method and lucidity the highly technical and debatable points involved. He began by referring to the extreme intricacy and perplexity of the acts already on the Statute-book that constituted the law in regard to Irish land, so that any Irish land bill of the present day must of necessity be in the nature of an amendment bill, and must be more like a collection of small bills than a comprehensive measure. When Parliament consented to pass the act of 1881 it gave its sanction to an agrarian revolution and a complete transformation of the system of land tenure. This was a thing which could not be accomplished at a single stroke; that statute did not exhaust all the aspects of the land question in Ireland, for side by side with joint or dual ownership there had been from the first a desire for the establishment of a peasant proprietary. This desire found expression in some of the earlier Land Acts, and since 1881 it had been the keystone of the Unionist policy with regard to land in Ireland. The final goal at which, in their judgment, land reform in Ireland must aim—*viz.*, the substitution of simple ownership for dual ownership—was far distant and would still be far distant even if the Purchase Acts had worked more effectively. The present measure not only traversed the ground covered by the

bill introduced by Mr. J. Morley in the previous year, but it contained a series of provisions designed for the amendment of procedure and of the working of the Purchase Acts. Mr. G. Balfour then proceeded to describe in minute detail the proposals embodied in the measure. There were some parts of Mr. Morley's bill which the Government regarded as non-contentious, and which were accordingly included in their own bill, such as the clause defining the position of the tenant at the end of the statutory term; one making valid the tenancy of a holding notwithstanding the fact that it had been sublet by the tenant without the consent of the superior landlord where it appeared that there had been tacit assent or acquiescence on the part of the latter. A further provision common to both bills had the object of saving the interest of sub-tenants where the interest of the middleman was determined by a notice to quit or by the effluxion of time. A fourth provision would prevent a tenant from being rented on his own improvements in certain cases. But there were three of Mr. J. Morley's proposals which the Government were unable to accept—namely, the abolition of the landlord's right of pre-emption, the compulsory conversion of certain future tenancies into present tenancies, and the presumption that all tenancies in Ulster were subject to the Ulster tenant-right. Mr. Balfour next gave a general outline of the proposals of the Government with reference to subletting and exclusion from the benefits of the act; and he then dealt with the most thorny and complicated question of town-parks. He explained the mode in which the bill would amend the law where it seemed to be doubtful or defective with regard to tenants' improvements. Mr. Morley's bill contained clauses which laid down that improvements should be held to include the whole of the increased value of the land, and provided that all improvements should be presumed to have been made by the tenant or his predecessor in title unless the landlord could prove the contrary. These two propositions would practically reduce all agricultural rents in Ireland to what was called prairie value, but that was a result not only repugnant to equity but contrary to the spirit of the act of 1881. He sincerely desired that all legitimate protection should be given to the tenants' improvements. In regard to pre-emption it was necessary to have some limit, and it appeared to him that 1850 was not an unreasonable date to fix for that purpose. The Select Committee had reported in favour of shortening the statutory term from fifteen to ten years, but her Majesty's Government considered the proposal to be inadmissible, because such an alteration in the conditions of statutory contracts would altogether destroy the sanctity of contracts in Ireland. Moreover, if the tenants whose rents were fixed ten years before were allowed to come into Court for fresh contracts, the machinery of the act of 1881 would be wholly insufficient to cope with the work. This administrative objection taken alone was final in regard to the

shortening of the existing term. Future cases, he admitted, were on a different footing, but, on the whole, the balance of considerations appeared to be against a ten years' term, even in such cases. The advantages of an automatic system for adjusting rents were so great that he had endeavoured to devise a scheme, which he proceeded to explain. It was not intended that the scheme should be imposed compulsorily, but that it should be adopted by the common consent of both parties. The term he proposed was to be of thirty years' duration. The fair rent was to be fixed in the ordinary way for fifteen years, but it was to be variable every five years on the application of either party if, in the opinion of the Land Commission, the variation in prices justified a variation in the rent. At the end of the thirty years' term either party was to be entitled either to have a fair rent fixed again, and to enter on a new thirty years' term, or they might apply to the court to fix a fair rent for the ordinary term of fifteen years, or they might continue at quinquennial periods to vary the amount of rent. Mr. Balfour then described amendments in the present working of the Land Commission, stating that the object of the Government was to reduce the cost of procedure and to discourage the rehearing of facts. Passing to the question of purchase, which it was the policy of the Government to stimulate, he declared it was impossible to adopt a plan for making purchase compulsory and universal, which would involve an expenditure of 100,000,000*l.*, and possibly of more than 200,000,000*l.* They must be content with gradual arrangements made between the parties. Only in that way could the financial difficulty be overcome. The Government had devised a series of clauses for the purpose of making sale and purchase more attractive to landlords and tenants, but these clauses dealt with extremely technical legal points. The bill made the terms of repayment as easy as possible so far as was consistent with security. The plan of the Government would give relief to the purchaser not at first, but some years after the advance had been made, and when he might be suffering from the effects of a fall in agricultural values. The length of the term of repayment would be extended from forty-nine years to seventy years or more. The bill also proposed to abolish the purchaser's insurance money, and to make important concessions to the vendor. The guarantee deposit would only be required where the Commissioners thought it necessary, and facilities would be given for the redemption of the tithe rent-charge. With regard to the evicted tenants, the Government were prepared to re-enact for twelve months the 13th clause of the act of 1891, and to empower the Land Commissioners to act as mediators between the parties. He had no doubt the bill would be severely criticised by the Irish members, and the fate of the measure, considering the state of public business, lay entirely in their hands. Perhaps he might remind them that the bill would

probably be criticised no less severely by the friends of the landlords. To the House at large, however, he would commend the bill as being on the whole a fair and beneficial measure for both the landlords and the tenants.

Mr. J. Morley (*Montrose Burghs*) was not disposed to offer any assistance from his colleagues to pass a bill which embodied so many proposals of his own measure. He suggested that in view of the time which would be required to discuss the various questions raised the Government should abandon their Education Bill; failing that, it would be necessary to throw overboard four-fifths of the Irish Land Bill or to prolong the session to an inordinate length. Mr. J. Dillon (*Mayo, E.*), on behalf of the Irish Nationalists, whilst joining with Mr. Morley in denouncing the bill as not going far enough to meet the demands of the tenants for further reductions of rent, broke away from him on the question of purchase, declaring that the Nationalists would readily support any well-considered scheme. The bill was then brought in and read a first time without a division.

The following day (Apr. 14) the first morning sitting set apart for the transaction of Government business was utilised in the discussion of one of those personal questions which as a rule arouse more interest than the most pressing public measure. Upwards of three hours were spent in discussing the question of the fares charged by the London and North-Western Railway between London and Holyhead. The Irish members were especially indignant over the high fares charged, and also because the company refused to attach third-class carriages to the Irish mail trains; and among the matters incidentally mentioned in support of these grievances, it was pointed out by Mr. Healy (*Louth, N.*) that while an English member could reach the House of Commons by simply taking a hansom cab, it cost an Irish member about 100*l.* a year to travel backwards and forwards between England and Ireland. The result was that Irish members were "sick of the Act of Union every time they crossed the channel."

Sir W. H. Houldsworth (*Manchester, N.W.*) defended the bill, and the President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Ritchie (*Croydon*), protested against the unfairness of rejecting it simply because some members were dissatisfied with the fares charged, and pointed out that though the fares were higher than usual on the section of the railway between Chester and Holyhead, it was because of the additional cost of making and working that particular section. At last the closure was applied on the motion of Sir William Houldsworth by 221 votes against 107; an amendment which had been moved for the rejection of the bill was defeated by 207 against 130, and the second reading of the bill was carried by 203 against 124. Then Mr. Lloyd-George (*Carnarvon District*) raised an old matter of grievance and complaint by pointing out that Sir William Houldsworth had acted as a teller in all three divisions, and he moved that the votes of

Sir William Houldsworth be expunged on the ground that, as a director and shareholder in the London and North-Western Company, he had a direct pecuniary interest in the bill, and therefore ought not to have voted upon it. This led to a discussion of some interest and importance. Sir William Houldsworth candidly confessed that he was a director of the company, and, as a director, he had taken charge of the bill and had felt bound to do his duty in endeavouring to get it passed. Mr. Balfour (*Manchester, E.*) pointed out that the question was not a new one, and that the House had almost uniformly declined to disallow the votes given in such cases by members in the position of Sir William Houldsworth. He contended that if a shareholder in a company had no right to vote upon a bill which affected that company, the same thing might be said of a Lancashire member who voted upon a bill which affected the cotton trade, or of a mortgager or landowner who voted upon a bill dealing with land, or of a barrister who voted on a measure which might have the effect of increasing litigation. That was carrying the doctrine of personal interest to far too great a length. Mr. Haldane (*Haddingtonshire*), however, held that the opportunity was a favourable one for laying down a general rule to govern the action of the House in future cases of the kind; but the Speaker, on being appealed to by Mr. Balfour, explained that it would always be for the House itself to determine whether it would convert any particular case into a precedent or not. Eventually a suggestion made by Mr. Courtney, that the Government should agree to appoint a Select Committee to consider the question and to decide what principle should guide the House in future in such matters, was accepted by Mr. Balfour, who promised that such a committee should be appointed, whereupon Mr. Lloyd-George withdrew his motion, the matter came to an end, and the whole sitting was wasted so far as progress with Government business was concerned.

The Government had already placed before the House of Commons the requirements of the year, showing larger demands than had ever before been made in times of peace. They had now to show how they proposed to raise the necessary revenue. No Chancellor of the Exchequer, however, in modern times had had his way smoothed for him as had Sir M. Hicks-Beach. For the first time since the Crimean War the expenditure rose to a total exceeding 100,000,000*l.*; but such had been the growth of prosperity that not only could this amount be raised without recourse to fresh taxation, but the large amount of money spent upon the Navy in excess of the sums provided in the previous year was more than covered by the excess of revenue over the estimate made by Sir William Harcourt. The chief causes of this happy condition of the Exchequer were the revival of trade and Sir William Harcourt's finance. There were other incidental causes also at work, to which the Chancellor of the Exchequer alluded in his lucid if not brilliant

speech (Apr. 16). The credit of the country, he said, had never stood so high (New 2½ Consols being at 112), and the condition of the working classes, judged by the consumption of tea, tobacco and sugar, was not less satisfactory than that of the capitalist class, gauged by stamps. The value of both exports and imports during the past year had increased in a most astonishing manner, for whilst in the first half of 1895 there had been an actual decrease of 7,500,000*l.*, in the second half of the year the increase had exceeded 28,000,000*l.* Similarly, whilst the Exchequer receipts of the financial year 1894-5 had been 94,684,000*l.*, those of the year 1895-6 had amounted to 101,974,000*l.*—a rise which no financial authority could have foreseen. Dealing next more in detail with the figures of the year, Sir M. Hicks-Beach explained that the Exchequer receipts for Customs were 20,756,000*l.*, or 516,000*l.* over the estimate, and 641,000*l.* over the Exchequer receipts of 1894-5; tobacco, tea and wine being the main features of the Customs increase. On the important head of foreign spirits, the net receipt was 4,217,000*l.*, being 20,000*l.* more than the net receipt of 1894-5 and 137,000*l.* more than the estimate. British and Irish spirits steadily displaced foreign spirits in the market. Tea showed a net revenue of 3,745,000*l.*, being an increase of 158,000*l.* over 1894-5 and 120,000*l.* over the estimate. From tobacco the net revenue was 10,748,000*l.*, being 108,000*l.* over the estimate and 333,000*l.* over the net receipts for 1894-5. He believed that the growth of the revenue from tobacco was mainly due to the vast increase in the consumption of cigarettes, which led to a great deal of waste. The net receipts from wine were 130,000*l.* over the previous year and 136,000*l.* over the Budget estimate. With regard to the Excise, the receipts were 26,800,000*l.*, as against an estimate of 25,960,000*l.* The net revenue from British spirits was 15,603,000*l.*, being an increase of 334,000*l.*, though a considerable portion of that increase did not really belong to the past year. The next and perhaps most important source of revenue was the death duties, which had produced no less than 11,600,000*l.* for the Imperial Exchequer, in addition to 2,450,000*l.* paid in aid of local taxation and not appearing in the Budget statement, showing together an excess of 1,500,000*l.* over the original estimate. This divergence, however, was mainly caused by realty not having availed itself to the extent anticipated of paying its duty by instalments, and further because personalty subject to probate duty had been exceptionally large. Stamps also had risen 1,690,000*l.* above the estimate, one of the main causes being the financial activity, especially in gold mines.

Turning from revenue to expenditure, Sir M. Hicks-Beach said his predecessor, Sir William Harcourt, had estimated the expenditure at 95,981,000*l.* Since then there had been a supplementary estimate of 2,517,000*l.* The total Exchequer issues for the year amounted to 97,764,000*l.*, leaving a surplus of

4,210,000*l.*—the largest surplus which had accrued for the last fifty years. A great portion of that surplus had been devoted, under the Naval Works Act, to capital expenditure in connection with our dockyards. In regard to it, in the financial year just closed 636,000*l.* had been paid, and 2,750,000*l.* had been allotted to the current year and 593,000*l.* for expenditure beyond that date. This, of course, bore on the Exchequer balance, which on April 1, 1895, was 6,300,000*l.*, or rather more than the normal balance. On the corresponding date of 1896 the Exchequer balance had risen to 8,975,000*l.* The surplus of 4,210,000*l.* would by payments in reduction of the National Debt and for naval works be reduced to something like the normal amount. Our total gross liabilities on April 1, 1895, were 660,160,000*l.*, and our total liabilities on March 31, 1896, were 652,026,000*l.* The funded debt was 589,147,000*l.*; the value of the terminable annuities, 49,218,000*l.*; the unfunded debt, 9,976,000*l.*; and 3,685,000*l.* was raised under special acts.

With reference to the enormous increase in expenditure, the great question ought to be considered whether it was not now increasing faster than the capacity to bear it, and whether within measurable time we should have no choice between an increase of taxation and putting an end to the reduction of the National Debt. By their self-denying course in reducing that debt the Parliament and people had raised up a reserve fund which would enable us in case of emergency, without imposing a penny of taxation, to raise 200,000,000*l.* without imposing an atom of more debt upon the people of that day than our predecessors bore in 1857.

The results of these statements when placed in a tabulated form were:—

ESTIMATED REVENUE.			
	Exchequer Receipts in 1895-6.		Estimate for 1896-7.
	£		£
Customs	20,756,000		21,020,000
Excise	28,800,000		27,000,000
Death Duties...	11,600,000	...	10,950,000
Stamps	7,860,000	...	6,700,000
Land tax	1,015,000	..	1,000,000
House Duty	1,495,000	..	1,475,000
Property and Income-tax	16,100,000	...	16,200,000
Post Office	11,380,000	...	11,660,000
Telegraph Service	2,840,000	...	2,940,000
Crown Lands	415,000	...	415,000
Suez Canal Share Receipts	874,000	..	698,000
Miscellaneous	1,549,000	..	1,700,000
Total Revenue	£101,974,000	...	£101,755,000

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE.							
				Exchequer Issues in 1895-6. £		Budget Estimate for 1896-7. £	
National Debt Services	...	...	...	25,000,000	...	25,000,000	
Other Consolidated Fund Services	...	...	...	1,601,000	...	1,660,000	
Army (including Ordnance Factories)	...	...	...	18,460,000	...	18,056,000	
Navy	...	...	...	19,724,000	...	21,823,000	
Civil Services	...	...	...	19,800,000	...	19,795,000	
Customs and Inland Revenue	...	...	...	2,702,000	...	2,735,000	
Post Office	...	...	...	7,018,000	...	7,242,000	
Telegraph Service	...	...	...	2,744,000	...	3,009,000	
Packet Service	...	...	...	715,000	...	727,000	
Total Expenditure				£97,764,000	...	£100,047,000	
Estimated Surplus, 1896-7	...	...	...	...	...	£1,708,000	

With this surplus Sir M. Hicks-Beach then proceeded to deal, declaring at the outset that he had no intention of repealing the Finance Act of 1894, although there were several minor points connected with the death duties which might be reasonably modified. The first was that where any legacy duty which, under the Finance Act of 1894, was merged in the new estate duty had, prior to that act, been paid on the principal value of any property, and such property subsequently became liable to the new estate duty under the same disposition, an allowance should be made for the legacy duty already paid. The second and third were to prevent duty being paid either where a person had created a life interest in his own property, and the property reverted to himself on the termination of that interest, or where he had in settling his property created a life interest subsequent to his own, and through the lapse of such interest in his own lifetime his life interest became enlarged into absolute ownership. Then he proposed to adopt the legacy duty rule in two points—first, to enable an annuitant to pay the estate duty by instalments; secondly, with regard to the mode in which the estate duty was charged on works of art or other objects or collections of national or historic interest not yielding income. That rule was not to charge the duty on such articles until they were sold or came into the possession of a person competent to dispose of them. The changes he proposed would involve a loss of revenue amounting to about 200,000*l.* This left him about 1,500,000*l.*, which he said must mainly go to the relief of agriculture. In accordance with the recommendations of the Royal Commission Sir M. Hicks-Beach proposed to reduce the *maximum* rate of the land-tax from 4*s.* to 1*s.* in the 1*l.* on the value of the land liable to it, on the assessment of the lands under Schedule A of the income-tax. He proposed also to give a similar reduction in the terms of redemption to that given by Mr. Gladstone in 1853—*viz.*, a reduction in the number of years' purchase to thirty, and to separate the tax from any connection

with Consols. The alterations in the land-tax would cost 100,000*l.* a year. A far larger sum would, however, be required by the President of the Local Government Board, who would introduce his bill with regard to the rating of agricultural land, and he proposed to allot from his surplus 975,000*l.* for the purposes of that measure. This would include similar grants to Scotland and Ireland. He had now disposed of his surplus, except 433,000*l.*, out of which he would have to provide for whatever increased charge with regard to education might fall within the present financial year on account of the proposals in the bill of the Vice-President of the Council, leaving a very modest surplus for contingencies.

Sir William Harcourt offered no opinion on his successor's proposals, but he recognised that the general principles with regard both to revenue and expenditure were founded upon a basis of sound finance.

The general debate on the Budget resolutions was taken a few days later (Apr. 23), when the Chancellor of the Exchequer's scheme was reviewed by Sir Henry Fowler (*Wolverhampton, E.*), who did not take so optimistic a view of the financial situation as Sir M. Hicks-Beach. He admitted that the signs of improvement in the trade of the country were general and were extending, but they had to deal with an expenditure unprecedented in amount, and next year we should have to deal with an expenditure still further increased. In 1895-6 there was an excess on our whole expenditure of 4,250,000*l.*, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer based his scheme for the present year on the assumption that there would be an excess of receipts over expenditure of 1,750,000*l.* Three years ago Sir William Harcourt proposed to expend 91,500,000*l.*, and since that time the annual expenditure had grown to 100,000,000*l.* The Chancellor of the Exchequer told them that to meet this expenditure he expected a revenue of 101,750,000*l.* In the circumstances he contended that the income-tax payer had the first claim for relief from some of his burdens. He assumed that in the opinion of the Government 8*d.* in the pound was to be taken as the normal peace rate of the income-tax in this country. It appeared, however, that ever since the tax was first imposed in 1841 8*d.* had never been the rate of the income-tax except for special objects. Consequently the income-tax payer had a right to relief, as this particular tax ought to be our chief reserve in time of war. In his opinion 6*d.* was a very fair rate to impose in time of peace, but he should not be justified in making a proposal to reduce the income-tax, because he doubted whether there would really be the surplus of which the Chancellor of the Exchequer spoke. He did not see how there could be an available margin of 1,750,000*l.* to be dealt with, as the charges for the Navy and the Army appeared to be much less than they were in reality, and therefore next year we should have to deal with a con-

siderable increase in our expenditure. The Secretary of State for the Colonies said the Chartered Company would pay for everything in South Africa, but for his own part he feared that there would be a considerable increase in our expenditure there. Moreover, the Government were preparing to make enormous permanent additions to the expenditure of the country, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer would have to face this time next year an expenditure of at least 104,000,000*l.* This was one reason why he was not prepared to ask the Committee to make a reduction in the income-tax. In conclusion, he expressed a doubt whether it was justifiable to redeem the National Debt when Consols were at such a premium as 10, 12, or 14 per cent.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir M. Hicks-Beach (*Bristol, W.*), said he was not more fond than Sir Henry Fowler was of paying, with Consols at 113 or 114, for the reduction of the National Debt. He had given directions under which the Government had not lately gone into the market as a competitor for the purchase of Consols. He did not at all agree with Sir H. Fowler's opinion that 8*d.* should be the normal figure for the income-tax. When the Government were able to reduce the tax in time of peace they would do so, but he himself admitted that, looking to the position of our revenue and expenditure, as disclosed in the present Budget, no reduction of the income-tax was possible. With regard to the Navy Estimates, he believed the First Lord of the Admiralty had so arranged his programme of shipbuilding that the sum borne on the estimates for the current year was considerably larger than that which would be required for next year. He confessed that he had not calculated on expenditure of any great amount in the coming year for "enormous military operations" either in the Soudan or South Africa. The cost of the troops which had been sent to the territories of the Chartered Company would be borne by that company, whilst the Egyptian Government had undertaken the expedition towards Dongola with their own forces and at their own cost, and there was no obligation upon him to provide for any large expenditure on that account.

The serious part of the discussion was brought to a conclusion by Sir Wm. Harcourt (*Monmouthshire, W.*), who confessed that he should have been glad to have Sir M. Hicks-Beach's plan for reducing the National Debt. He knew there were some people who desired that other things should be bought besides Consols, but this would not diminish the debt. As regards savings banks, he should also oppose any securities except Consols being held. He believed the present high price of Consols arose from accidental circumstances, and he was perfectly satisfied with the statement that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would consider what should be done during an exceptional period, though he hoped nothing would prevent the application of a moderate sum to the reduction of the National

Debt whatever the price of Consols might be. The Government assured them that there would be no imperial expenditure in South Africa, and expected that the Chartered Company was to bear all the cost. Still, there were very grave doubts about the financial position of the Chartered Company in regard to this matter. He trusted that the Chancellor of the Exchequer's declarations of policy would be adhered to by her Majesty's Government, and he felt sure that they would give much satisfaction throughout the country.

Although the Budget resolutions were agreed to without more than a formal debate it was far otherwise with the Finance Bill founded on them and the Agricultural Land Rating Bill which was supplementary to it. The latter, consisting of only nine clauses, was introduced (Apr. 20) by the President of the Local Government Board, Mr. Chaplin (*Sleaford, Lincolnshire*), in a conciliatory speech, in which he attempted to minimise as far as possible the interests of the landlords and to show that those of the farmers had been uppermost in the mind of the Government. It was a measure, he explained, to amend the rating of occupiers of agricultural land, and was intended not indeed to remedy but to mitigate the severity of agricultural depression—due in great measure if not altogether to the abnormal fall in the price of agricultural produce. A royal commission on this subject was still sitting, but had not finally reported on the causes of or the remedy for this fall, but an *interim* report had been agreed to by the commissioners shortly before the meeting of Parliament, of which the leading recommendations were embodied in the Government measure. Unfortunately, there was a very wide difference of opinion as to the way in which this *interim* report had been obtained, and a somewhat acrimonious correspondence was published between the President of the Local Government Board and Mr. G. Shaw-Lefevre, who had been chairman of the commission. According to the former, and his version was practically unchallenged by any member of the House, the commissioners made certain proposals for lightening the rates as a primary step towards averting the progress of agricultural depression. The Government, said Mr. Chaplin, were however perfectly alive to the claims of other kinds of ratable property to an equitable readjustment of taxation. But in regard to agricultural land there ought to be no more delay in proposing such remedial measures as might be possible. All classes connected with the land were suffering from agricultural depression, and the results of depression were beginning to affect the labourers most seriously. The Government, he said, would enact by the first clause that after the 31st of March, 1897, the occupiers of agricultural land in England should be liable, in the case of every rate to which this act applied, to pay one-half of the rate in the pound payable in respect of buildings and hereditaments. In his opinion the proportion fixed by statute, *viz.*,

one-fourth of the ratable value, did not exceed what justice and expediency might very well have dictated in the present case, but, considering the exceptionally heavy claims made on the Chancellor of the Exchequer, he had been obliged to adopt the proportion of one half. The Government estimated the deficiency thus created in the amount raised by rates in England at 1,550,000*l.*, only half of which amount would, however, be required during the present financial year. At present agricultural land and the houses and other buildings upon it were valued together, but for the purposes of this measure a separate valuation of the two would be required, and the bill accordingly provided that a separate valuation should be made by the local authorities, who would be required to supply information on the subject to the Local Government Board. The land was to be assessed in future on half its ratable value, while houses and buildings would still continue to be assessed on the whole of their ratable value. With regard to the division of rates between the owner and the occupier of the land, theoretically, of course, the whole of the burden ultimately fell upon the land; but the Government had not the slightest doubt that the relief given by this bill would go wholly and directly to the tenant. Therefore, in the circumstances they were not prepared to propose that the rates should be divided between the occupier and the owner. In conclusion the President of the Local Government Board expressed the hope that the bill would tend to arrest the progress of that depression which was crushing the very life out of the chief industry of this country.

In the short discussion which followed Mr. Chaplin's speech it was evident that the Opposition saw in the provisions of this short bill materials for protracted discussion. Whilst willingly assenting to Mr. Chaplin's wish to push forward the various stages of the bill they clearly indicated the hostile attitude they intended to adopt. Sir Henry Fowler (*Wolverhampton, E.*), while admitting the existence and gravity of the depression, objected to the proposal to hand over more than 1,500,000*l.* to one section of one class of the community. He did not deny that the incidence of local taxation was most unfair, but the taxation did not fall solely on land, as it was levied on shopkeepers, manufacturers, millowners and mineowners. Therefore, they had a right to ask the Government not to make a differentiation between the two classes of ratepayers. They all admitted that relief ought to be given to the agricultural interest, but, at the same time, they could not shut their eyes to the claims of the urban ratepayers, whose burdens were much heavier.

The speakers who followed generally adopted party lines—the county members and the borough members for the same part of the country often holding absolutely opposite views as to the efficacy of the remedy proposed. The most notable exception was Mr. G. Whiteley (*Stockport*), a Conservative and a manu-

facturer, who said he should oppose the bill to the best of his ability because it contained principles which, in his opinion, were not only wrong, but almost dangerous. The first principle was that the Government should come to the assistance of an industry chiefly on the ground that it was depressed. He objected to that principle and he also opposed the bill because it was contrary to the interests of the towns. It would in point of fact inflict a cruel injustice on the boroughs and urban districts. He suggested that the bill should only be in operation for a limited period, and that in the meanwhile a strong royal commission should inquire into the burning question of the rating of other kinds of property.

Sir W. Harcourt said he would willingly give his support to bills for the relief of agriculture, but this was not one of them. The dole to a distressed industry was gross and palpable in its injustice, for the bill proposed to deal with local taxation in the interests of one class alone. Anything more preposterous and more unstatesmanlike than this plan for the settlement of the local rating question it was impossible to conceive. The bill went half-way towards a national poor rate, and he might venture to predict that no very long time would elapse before the Government were compelled to go the whole way. The bill was the most crude, hasty, and ill-considered measure which he had ever seen presented to Parliament.

An entire week was occupied in debating the second reading of the bill, but very few fresh arguments were introduced either in its condemnation or defence. Sir Henry Fowler returned to the attack (Apr. 27), moving a formal amendment declaring the injustice and inexpediency of restricting relief to one class of ratable property. His argument was that the whole urban population was being sacrificed to a section of the rural, and that taxes would have to be raised on the former for the relief of the latter. The bill, he declared, helped only one class that had suffered from the agricultural depression, the farming and land-owning class, yet the depression had affected the millowner, the small shopkeeper and the artisan just as severely. Mr. Whiteley, the Conservative, also renewed his opposition "because of the exceeding cruelty and injustice it did to the residents of urban districts." Many industries—coal, cotton, iron, and shipping—were, he asserted, as much in need of help, and Lancashire as a whole was opposed to the bill. He challenged its members to resign and take the verdict of their constituencies, as he himself was ready to do. Mr. Fenwick (*Wansbeck, Northumberland*), a miners' representative, also attacked the bill from the point of view of the coal industry, which had long been suffering depression. On the last day of the debate (Apr. 30) Mr. Chaplin explained that whatever the amount of rate might be in future, the land would always be called upon to pay one-half of what was paid by houses and buildings at the time. In order to meet the wishes of some speakers of the Opposition he proposed that

the operation of the bill should be limited to five years. The discussion was ultimately wound up by Sir Wm. Harcourt and Mr. Goschen. The former said that when this subject came to be fully considered it would be found that the real question which lay at the bottom of the relief from agricultural distress was that of rent. If labourers were to be kept on the soil, it must be done by entirely reconsidering and reforming the system of land tenure in this country. The present measure, he contended, opened up questions of enormous magnitude. There were 180,000,000*l.* of ratable property in the country; and the bill only proposed to touch 49,000,000*l.*, which did not require relief more urgently than the other 130,000,000*l.* Mr. Goschen (*Hanover Square*) replied on behalf of the Government in a long and masterly speech, in which, after denying that the money would go into the landlords' pockets, reminded the House that the measure was a temporary one. A commission was about to be appointed to consider the whole question of local rating, and if a wiser form of distribution were decided upon it could be adopted at the end of five years. After the closure had been carried by a majority of 156 (325 to 169 votes), the amendment was defeated by 165, and the second reading passed by 177 votes—a majority in excess of the ministerial majority, due to the fact that several prominent Radicals representing country districts as far apart as Devonshire and Lincolnshire found themselves forced by their constituents to support a measure which promised certain if inadequate relief to agriculture.

Four important and highly contentious measures were now before the House of Commons; and public opinion outside was rapidly maturing on their merits and defects. It was seen that notwithstanding their large majority the Ministry would have the utmost difficulty in passing into law this partial instalment of their promises. Their friends, however, asserted that by the measures introduced the Government had shown a readiness to redeem their pledges, and had begun by attempting to satisfy those to whom they were mostly indebted for the results of the general election. The Education Bill, the Finance Bill, and the Agricultural Land Rating Bill were drawn in the interests of the clergy, the landlords, and the farmers, whilst the Irish Land Bill was the fulfilment of the promise made by the Liberal Unionists that attention would be given to the reasonable demands of the Irish tenantry.

In the House of Lords the only bill of public interest was the Metropolitan Counties Water Board Bill, introduced (Mar. 16) by Lord James of Hereford, for establishing a Water Board to deal with the supply of water to the metropolitan counties. There was no pretence at concealing the fact that this proposal was put forward by the Government in consequence of the action of the London County Council, which, for reasons not altogether clear, but the consequence of divided

counsels, had shrunk from bringing forward its own scheme in the form of a private bill. Lord James in presenting the Government measure pointed out that, while the whole area supplied by the eight existing water companies extended over 620 square miles, only 120 square miles of that entire area were included within the jurisdiction of the London County Council. It had been determined, therefore, to create a new municipal and representative body for water purposes composed of thirty members—namely, sixteen appointed by the London County Council, two by the Corporation of London, two each by the County Councils of West Ham, Middlesex and Essex, one each by Croydon, Surrey, Kent and Hertfordshire, one by the Thames Conservancy, and one by the Lea Conservancy. The water trust thus created would possess all the existing powers of control over the water companies now possessed by the London County Council, and a clause had been inserted enabling outside districts to make arrangements for autonomous rights, thus enabling them, if they chose, to fall out of the trust. The trust would have power to enter into negotiations and to make agreements for taking over the interests of the water companies, but the terms would be subject to the action of Parliament by means of private legislation. Lord Tweedmouth, who represented the Progressives on the London County Council, contended that the bill would give only a bare majority of the representation on the trust to four-fifths of the whole population interested; and he held that the London County Council ought to be constituted the water authority for London. The same line of argument was adopted by Lord Tweedmouth when the bill came on for second reading (Apr. 30). He moved its rejection on the primary ground that it proposed to take the control of the water supply out of the hands of the body to which, according to both Parliamentary and municipal precedent, it ought to be entrusted—and to set up instead a new water authority in the metropolis, which would be in a worse position to exercise the powers vested in it, because it would not directly represent the ratepayers. He understood that the Government would insist on the terms of purchase being regulated by the Lands Clauses Act, which gave an extra percentage for compulsory purchase; but he held that all that the water companies had a right to expect was the fair and full value of their several undertakings, without any additional *solatium*.

Lord Onslow, as the mouthpiece of the Moderates in the London County Council, of which he was a member, admitted that the bill was drawn on the lines this party had constantly advocated. He contended that the action taken by the Government had brought the great question of the metropolitan water supply nearer to a settlement than it had ever been since the Duke of Richmond's Commission, and certainly nearer than it had been brought by the seven years' tinkering of the County Council with the subject.

Several suggestions were put forward to the scheme, to which Lord James of Hereford replied. He recognised, however, that there was a consensus of opinion in favour of some legislation on the subject. Lord Tweedmouth's proposition was that the County Council should have the absolute and sole control of that supply, and that proposition had been supported only by seven out of sixty-three London members of the House of Commons. There was a population of 1,250,000 outside the jurisdiction of the County Council, and it was obviously essential that that large population should receive due representation on the Water Board. The question of arbitration did not arise at that stage, but, whatever method was adopted to arrive at the true value of their property, the water companies were entitled to receive full and fair compensation for it when the Water Board acquired it from them.

Lord Rosebery, who was not only the leader of the Opposition but an ex-chairman of the London County Council, declared that what that body desired to propose was that like all other large towns they should have the control of their own water supply, while they were prepared to give the outside areas the autonomy they demanded or fair representation on the statutory committee which they suggested. He did not think that a more wanton bill than this one, which had been repudiated unanimously by the outside counties, had ever been introduced into Parliament; and he believed, notwithstanding all the great power of the Government, that it had little chance of passing into law.

A division was then taken, when the second reading was carried by 96 votes to 27—majority, 69.

Shortly afterwards the Secretary of State for War (Marquess of Lansdowne) introduced two useful measures, intended to adjust our military organisation to the growing needs of the empire—the Manœuvres Bill and the Reserve Forces Bill. The former was to enable the regulars, militia and volunteers to assemble in considerable numbers for a brief training during the autumn and receive instruction in field operations, and would further allow the staff to arrange for a series of operations over an extensive district, and upon a sensible basis, without having to meet the enormous claims for compensation which had been sent in after the only occasion on which autumn manœuvres had been attempted in this country.

The Reserve Forces Bill was a practical measure for enabling the War Office to carry out minor expeditions without depleting one battalion at home in order to send another battalion abroad in a fit state for active service. The Secretary of State was to have power to recall to the colours those reserve men who had left the colours within twelve months. The short service system had produced 80,000 reservists or thoroughly trained soldiers, but under the existing Army Act they could only be called out "in case of imminent national danger or great emergency." Lord

Lansdowne's wish was to make a portion of these fully trained and well-seasoned men available when required on less critical occasions.

The English Church Union and other High Church Associations found in Viscount Halifax a willing and able advocate of their views on the remarriage of divorced persons. It was felt by many that the existing law offended the prejudices of those who regarded marriage as indissoluble. Lord Halifax therefore introduced (May 1) a bill "to amend the Matrimonial Causes Act, 1857," of which he explained the object in moving (May 11) the second reading. This was to prevent churches and chapels of the Church of England from being used for the solemnisation of marriages in cases where one of the contracting parties had been divorced on the ground of misconduct, and to invalidate such marriages where both parties to them had knowingly procured their solemnisation in any church or chapel. The bill in no way affected the legal facilities existing for divorce or for remarriage in registry offices. Lord Salisbury, in supporting the bill, admitted that he felt a difficulty with regard to the proposal to render void the remarriage of divorced persons contrary to the provisions of the bill, as it would involve great hardship to the innocent issue of such marriages. There was, however, no serious objection raised to the bill, which was read a second time without a division.

In the committee stage (May 19) Lord Grimthorpe moved an amendment to make it illegal for any person who had been convicted of any crime, including bigamy, which dissolved marriage, to be married in a church throughout the whole of his life. This might have been considered a logical corollary to Lord Halifax's proposal, but it was repudiated by him as well as by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, and others, and finally negatived. Lord Grimthorpe however, was more successful in having struck out of the bill "Any marriage solemnised contrary to the provisions of this act with the knowledge of both parties thereto shall be void." But at a later date the Archbishop of York inserted a clause imposing a penalty of 100*l.* on any person who knowingly contravened the provisions of the act, which however never passed into law.

Outside Parliament—apart from the progress of the Soudan campaign, the rising in Rhodesia, and the tactics of President Krüger—attention was chiefly concentrated on the Education Bill, of which the second reading was ominously delayed. The more it was discussed the objections of the Liberals grew stronger and the enthusiasm of the clerical party grew cooler. The Opposition, however, were forced to recognise the fact that the bill, if opposed on the second reading, would leave them in a small minority, for the Irish Nationalists—for the most part Roman Catholics—would be bound by the promises given by their bishops to accept a scheme which would largely benefit the voluntary schools established by their Church. The real

difficulty, however, which underlay the whole education question was never met by the bill or seriously grappled with by its opponents. No attempt was made by its friends or foes to define the exact limits of elementary education. In the original act as passed by Mr. W. E. Forster, the dominant idea had been that the instruction to be given in the thereby created board schools should be of a like nature, though possibly of a better quality, to that hitherto given in national and British schools. The principle of local self-government had, however, been conceded at the same time, as the ratepayers, the majority of whom would profit by the board schools, offered little or no objection to the rates being raised to give a superior standard of education by a higher and better paid class of teachers. The voluntary schools having no such elastic funds for their support suffered more and more by comparison, and in their efforts to keep pace with the board schools had to make frequent and urgent appeals to those who were already in most cases rated to support board schools. In the matter of teachers, especially, the voluntary schools were placed at a disadvantage, but, anxious as their managers were to increase their efficiency and ready to accept Government inspection in return for an increased Government grant, they were not equally disposed to receive aid from the rates accompanied by some form of popular control, or by the representation of the ratepayers on the boards of management.

The National Union of Teachers devoted the greater part of their time at Brighton to discussing the bill and in elaborating a number of amendments. They expressed a strong preference for an education board specially chosen, instead of having its business mixed up with the other affairs of the town or county council; they declared that the additional grant in aid of 4s. per scholar was wholly inadequate; and they objected to the abolition of the 17s. 6d. limit, on the ground that what the schools would gain by the abolition they would more than lose by the proposed deductions.

Mr. T. E. Ellis (*Merionethshire*) took the earliest opportunity of giving a lead to the Welsh Liberals, and in a bitter speech at Bala (Apr. 7) discussed the question on purely political grounds, condemning the Government bill as "tricky, showy, and delusive." His only contribution, however, to a better system was the establishment of a strong and directly elected local authority on the one hand, and a highly organised, well-staffed, wisely directed central department on the other. His colleague, Mr. Acland, who had been Vice-President of the Council in the last Ministry, followed up this attack (Apr. 15) when, addressing his constituents at Rotherham, he said that he knew of only one test by which they were to judge the elementary education provisions of the bill, and that was this—Did they or did they not make for progress in our national education? The first provision was the grant of half a million

of money or more from the pockets of the ratepayers, a grant unreasonably and capriciously allotted. With regard to the delegation of the powers of the Education Department to local authorities, he believed that we were not ripe for such a delegation. It was entirely premature to put upon county councils the work of the Education Department in reference to primary education, and at the same time to expect them to carry forward the organisation of both technical and secondary education. He said without hesitation that during the last twenty-five years the steady forward work of the Education Department was responsible in the main for the progress we had made. In many parts of the country this casting of our educational system into the melting-pot was likely to do a most serious damage to the cause of education. He was as much in favour as any man of good local self-government, of bringing self-government to the doors of the people; but it should be combined with the wise State supervision of the most experienced men whom the country could produce, and the two together went to make a good democratic system. He declared that the object of the bill appeared to be to cripple, harass, and injure representative educational bodies which had done such a splendid service to education over so long a period. To place the knowledge and experience in one body, and to try to place the control and financial responsibility in another body, was a thoroughly bad piece of statesmanship. Religious instruction had been given for the last twenty-five years in board schools. There had been very few petitions from parents to have the present state of things altered. The whole agitation had come from a different quarter. Speaking, at any rate, on behalf of the late Government, he said that they would oppose the second reading, and strive to the utmost, however small a body they might be, to get rid of the objectionable clauses with which the bill abounded.

It was not, however, to Mr. Acland, but to Mr. Asquith that the duty of formally moving the rejection of the Government bill eventually was assigned. Meanwhile he had an opportunity (Apr. 20) of delivering at Walsall a sort of full-dress rehearsal of his speech. With reference to various rumours which had been current as to the policy of the Opposition with regard to the Education Bill, he asserted that the only decision taken was to oppose the measure outright. If opposition, dictated by duty, were now futile, it would tell in the future as Mr. Gladstone's opposition to Lord Beaconsfield's Eastern policy told in the Liberal majority of 1880. The bill would lower the efficiency of primary education, increase friction, curtail representative control, and reopen the door to religious controversy. Though school boards in places were reactionary, this might be remedied by increasing the area of their constituencies. The voluntary schools, useful as they were, were to be subsidised beyond all proportion more than the board schools, and no regard was to be paid to efficiency.

The most interesting contributions to the flood of correspondence provoked by the Education Bill were the letters of the Bishop of Hereford and Mr. Chamberlain. The former (Dr. Percival) found himself more in harmony with the extreme Radical view of the *Daily Chronicle* than with that of his own calling. He denounced (Apr. 16) the Government measure as "crude and heterogeneous," and complained of making the new education authority out of a council elected for the purpose of making roads and draining houses. His real grievance, however, was that the whole educational bias of the country would be decided by the majority of the county council, which for the time being might be Radical or Tory, Anglican or Nonconformist.

Mr. Chamberlain's position was even more difficult; for on previous occasions he had pronounced so strongly in favour of school boards, and against the intrusion of the Church into State-aided instruction, that his former colleagues were eager to see how he would justify the proposals of Sir John Gorst. In a letter addressed to a member of the Birmingham School Board Mr. Chamberlain managed with considerable skill to avoid the net which had been spread for him. He frankly expressed his preference for the new education authority over school boards elected by the cumulative vote. He approved the centralising policy of the bill, which would enable local authorities to vary the type of teaching according to the tastes, interests, and occupations of different localities. He admitted that there were many points in the bill which deserved careful discussion and might require modification—as, for instance, the amount of aid to be given to the poorer school boards, and the absence of a conscience clause in denominational training colleges. These and other minor points might be properly treated when the bill had reached the committee stage, but they did not in any way concern its principle. Of course the utmost was made by the Opposition papers of these admissions; and it was even urged that such criticism by one member of the Government on a bill introduced by another was altogether unprecedented.

The case for the Opposition against the bill was summed up by Lord Rosebery in a speech at Rochdale (Apr. 28), when, whilst recognising that the Education Act of 1870 was not final, he declared that its smooth working had been deranged by a "bill to restrain the advance of education in this country." The main points of the bill he regarded to be those of finance, popular control, fostering voluntary schools to the detriment of board schools, and the religious question. With regard to the subvention of schools, he argued that out of half a million of money to be given to "weakly" schools only 17,000*l.* could fall to board schools, thus putting an end to all idea of statutory equality between them and voluntary schools. This liberal aid, moreover, was to be given without any vestige of control, so that in 8,000 places where only Church of England schools ex-

isted the Nonconformists would have only the vague protection of the conscience clause. Lord Rosebery further contended that this unconditional removal of the 17s. 6d. limit was altogether opposed to the expressed views of the Archbishop of Canterbury, representing the Church of England, who had deprecated any idea of the reduction of voluntary subscriptions. This safeguard had been removed by the bill, and there was nothing to hinder the immediate reduction and final abolition of subscriptions altogether. With regard to the new educational authority Lord Rosebery recognised decentralisation as a very good principle, but it was not applicable to a national system of education. It would bring things to chaos by removing a fixed national standard and by introducing a district standard of economy, diligence or instruction. He saw, moreover, throughout the bill the realisation of Lord Salisbury's advice to his supporters in the previous year to "capture the school boards." His aim was to strangle, degrade, and, if possible, to extinguish the school boards. In conclusion, Lord Rosebery strongly criticised clause 27 of the bill, which he declared would wholly upset the settlement of 1870, by giving any reasonable number of families the right to have in the board schools the religious education they preferred. The bill, he declared, offered no basis of permanent settlement of the education question, but it did offer a touchstone by which the professions and convictions of the Liberal Unionists, who had left their party solely on account of Irish Home Rule, might be put to the test.

The news that the High Court at Pretoria had after a very brief trial—the accused pleading guilty—sentenced to death Dr. Jameson and his four principal associates—Colonel Rhodes, Mr. L. Phillips, Mr. Farrar and Mr. Hammond—drew away public attention from all other topics. Fifty-nine of those less immediately concerned in the "treason" were sentenced to two years' imprisonment, a fine of 2,000*l.* each, and banishment for three years after the expiration of the sentence. It was not believed for a moment that President Krüger would carry into effect the capital sentence pronounced by the judge, which the jury, composed solely of Boers, at once petitioned the Executive Committee to commute. The question rather was as to the course Mr. Chamberlain would pursue, and how he would intervene for the protection of British subjects. A despatch published (Apr. 29) a few days before the trial showed clearly that the Transvaal Government resented strongly the intervention of the British Government in endorsing the grievances of the Uitlanders. Whilst desirous to cancel the treaty of 1884 and to substitute a treaty of amity and commerce, they preferred to postpone their demand lest it should open the door to the discussion of the alleged grievances. The Boers therefore decided to demand only compensation for the violation of their territory and to wait the opportunity of getting more complete independence.

Immediately after the sentences were passed at Pretoria the Transvaal Government published a set of cipher telegrams which they declared had been seized and deciphered by means of a key found in Dr. Jameson's baggage. These telegrams suggested that in the December previous the reform leaders at Johannesburg were arranging for an invasion of the Transvaal, that Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Beit at Cape Town and Mr. Harris, the secretary to the Chartered Company, were privy to the plot and consented to or even promoted it. In view of the fact that the chief offices of the Chartered Company were in London, this discovery once more shifted the interest excited by Jameson's raid and its consequences. The friends of the company, supported by the *Times* and the *Daily Telegraph*, maintained that the company, and especially Mr. Rhodes, being indispensable to South Africa, the most which could be conceded to its opponents was a commission of inquiry. The Radicals, on the other hand, insisted that the charter should be cancelled and Mr. Rhodes brought to trial. At this juncture Mr. Hawkesley, acting upon instructions given by Mr. Cecil Rhodes during his short stay in England, placed his and Mr. Beit's resignation (May 7) in the hands of the other directors of the Chartered Company. Almost simultaneously a message reached London from Mr. Rhodes on his march from Gwelo to Buluwayo directing the resignation to "wait—we fight the Matabele to-morrow" (May 7).

Under these circumstances a debate in Parliament on the whole circumstances was inevitable, and the vote for the Colonial Office on one of the days devoted to Supply (May 8) offered a convenient opportunity. Sir William Harcourt, although he had not hitherto taken any very active share in the questionings to which the Government had been subjected with regard to South Africa, was not prepared to pass over this occasion. He said nearly three months had elapsed since in the House the Colonial Secretary made a very full statement of the then circumstances, which gave great satisfaction. He had then mentioned that there were certain subjects which would have to be inquired into, including the connection of the Chartered Company with the Jameson raid, and he said the object of that inquiry would be to see whether the company were "fit and proper persons to be entrusted with the administration of this territory." Further, the Colonial Secretary said that on that particular question he attached more importance to the trials at Pretoria than he did to the trial of Dr. Jameson in London. The trials at Pretoria had since been held, and very important circumstances had come into view. Another statement made by Mr. Chamberlain—of course, in absolutely good faith—was that to the best of his knowledge and belief Mr. Cecil Rhodes, the Chartered Company and the Reform Committee at Johannesburg were equally ignorant of the intention of Dr. Jameson. With that statement before them, he did not think it could be said that the Opposition had unduly

pressed the Government. In fact, they had maintained a prudent and patriotic reserve. The recent publication of the cipher telegrams threw the conduct of Dr. Jameson and his companions entirely into the background. It was obvious from these telegrams that the whole of this affair was conducted in Johannesburg and in Cape Town by persons who were the principal directors of the Chartered Company, and that Dr. Jameson was only a subordinate agent. The company exercised the delegated authority of the British Crown, therefore we, as a nation and a Government, were responsible for their conduct. After observing that there was no question about the authenticity of the cipher telegrams, Sir William Harcourt proceeded to read and comment upon them, and, after giving the history of the transactions to which they related, he insisted that it was the duty of the House of Commons and of the Government to declare what, in the circumstances, ought to be done. The situation was a terrible one, and he assured the Secretary for the Colonies that it was not his desire to make the position more difficult. Assuming that the Chartered Company was to continue to exist, would the Government be justified in allowing the administration of its affairs to remain in the hands of those who had so grossly misused their powers? The Government could not, in his opinion, postpone their decision on this subject. He did not believe that Mr. Rhodes was personally actuated by the desire of gain, but the lust of dominion might lead men quite as much astray as the greed of gold; and here, unfortunately, there was a combination of both. In fact, the whole spirit of these transactions had been the spirit of mammon. If they continued the Chartered Company under the control of the men who had done these things, how were her Majesty's Government going to make a reasonable and friendly settlement with the Government of the Transvaal and President Krüger? If that was the treatment which President Krüger received from his suzerain, how could her Majesty's Government complain if he looked for support elsewhere? If the English Government condoned these transactions, what a lesson in public morals we should give to our colonies! The character of the British Empire, of Parliament, and of the Government was at stake. Such transactions as these enabled our enemies to cast in our teeth the taunt of *perfidie Albion*. We ought to make it plain that we did not desire to extend empire or to gain wealth *per fas et nefas*, by fraud, falsehood and crime, but that the Government intended to act in all matters like honest men.

Mr. Chamberlain, recognising his responsibility, rose at once to reply, prefacing his speech by the remark that South Africa had already been the grave of many reputations. Sir William Harcourt, he said, had almost wholly limited himself to the position created for Great Britain by the Jameson raid, as revealed by the cipher telegrams. There was a much wider

question, however, with which the committee would desire him to deal, and he would give the fullest information in his power on the points raised, while taking something in the nature of a general survey and explaining the policy of the Government as a whole. Sir W. Harcourt had made a speech for the prosecution not only of the Chartered Company but also of the prisoners who were at present under sentence at Pretoria and of the men under trial in this country. He would not follow the leader of the Opposition into that part of the case or deal in detail with the telegrams. As to the general character of those telegrams he imagined that there was but one feeling in the committee, and that if the sole object were to get a condemnation of those telegrams and of the policy which they revealed there would be no difficulty in obtaining it without any further discussion. But they would make a serious mistake if they treated those telegrams as though they were of supreme importance, and if they lost sight of the main principles involved in the policy pursued, not by this Government alone, but by all preceding Governments, with regard to South Africa. The main object of our policy in South Africa was to preserve our position as the paramount State. The second object was to bring about union and concord between the two great European races which inhabited that country. With regard to the first object we had earned our position in South Africa by a lavish expenditure of blood and treasure. On this point the country was absolutely unanimous, and yet he asked whether there was any one who could confidently assert that our supremacy had not been threatened. As to the second great object, there could be no permanent prosperity or happiness in South Africa without it. In annulling the annexation of the Transvaal the British Government acted with great magnanimity, and although gratitude between nations was not perhaps to be expected, we had, at all events, a right to expect a loyal observance of the conditions which were arranged. But since 1881 there had been constant breaches by the Boers, both of the spirit and of the letter of the convention. While agreeing that there was no reason to doubt the authenticity of the cipher telegrams, he must guard himself by saying that we had no legal proof of them and that they had not all been published in this country. They indicated that Mr. Rhodes approved of the proceedings of the Reform Committee and of a proposal for an entry into the Transvaal in certain eventualities, but they also seemed to prove that Mr. Rhodes disapproved of and tried to stop the invasion at the moment when it actually took place. He was informed that Mr. Rhodes sent a special messenger to Dr. Jameson urging him on no account to cross the frontier. Whatever errors Mr. Rhodes might have committed, he had also rendered great services to South Africa, and because he was universally condemned for his recent action that was no reason why we should entirely forget his past. But for English-

men like Mr. Rhodes English history would be much poorer and our dominion would be much smaller. The Chartered Company had now been deprived of all power to do further mischief, and he did not deem it his duty at the present moment to offer any opinion as to Mr. Rhodes's resignation. When the pending judicial proceedings were terminated the Government intended to institute a searching inquiry into the conduct of the British South Africa Company, and this could best be done, in accordance with precedent, by the appointment of a joint committee of both Houses.

Mr. Labouchere (*Northampton*), who had been the prime mover in bringing on this discussion, was less fettered by past or present responsibility, and he had no scruple in putting into plain language the views freely expressed by those who were neither dazzled by Dr. Jameson's knight-errantry nor hoodwinked by the ambitious or selfish aims of the Chartered Company. He recognised the energy and decision with which Mr. Chamberlain had acted with difficulties and influences both in South Africa and in England. The fact was that during the past two or three years a body of shady financiers had been carrying on a gambling establishment under the Union Jack, and that "society" had supported it. He contended that the Chartered Company was one of the most disgraceful and scandalous associations that ever existed, and as for the revolution in Johannesburg it was got up by a gang of financiers, some of whom resided in England and others at the Cape, and most of the Uitlanders refused to join it when they found out the real objects of these financiers. With Mr. Chamberlain's praises of Mr. Rhodes Mr. Labouchere could not agree, and he dealt at length with the story of that "adventurer's" career in Mashonaland and Matabeleland, and described his attitude towards the Chartered Company and its directors. He concluded a brilliant but bitter speech by insisting that the inquiry into the affairs of the British South Africa Company ought to be conducted by a committee of the House of Commons, and not, as the Government proposed, by a joint committee of both Houses.

Mr. Rhodes found in Mr. Yerburgh (*Chester*) and Sir Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett (*Eccleshall, Sheffield*) not only apologists, but warm champions, but their speeches failed to awaken much sympathy, there being a widely-spread feeling that a searching inquiry into the causes of an apparently inexplicable attack upon a friendly Government should be made. The debate, which had been brought to no conclusion, was not subsequently resumed, the Government having in the meantime consented to adopt Mr. Labouchere's plan of an inquiry by a committee of the House of Commons.

Meanwhile the debate on the second reading of the Education Bill had been started by its chief author, the Vice-President of the Council, Sir J. Gorst (*Cambridge University*), who,

in a speech of great lucidity, defined (May 5) the four objects of the bill as, first, the levelling up of the voluntary schools and the poorer board schools; next, the replacement of school boards in the rural districts where they had failed; thirdly, establishing a common authority for primary and secondary schools, so that the two systems might be closely co-ordinated and linked together; and, lastly, decentralising our education system so as to relieve the Education Department of a mass of detail under which it was breaking down. Sir John Gorst, in referring to the new education authority created by the bill, consisting partly of county councillors and partly of a minority of nominees called in to assist them, remarked that if the opinion of Parliament should be in its favour it would be well to insist on selecting for these nominees educational experts, who should be submitted to the Education Department for approval. Sir John Gorst further declared that it was not intended that the new education authority should be installed in power suddenly all over the country, but that the change should be made tentatively and gradually, and first in places where it was likely to work most effectively. These were the four objects which the Government proposed to accomplish by establishing in every county a paramount educational authority to supervise and control the general education of the children of the county. Therefore those members who voted against the second reading of the bill would be understood to vote against the placing of the control of education in the hands of local authorities. The most contentious portion of the scheme was that relating to the aid to be given to the voluntary and board schools. The necessity for the grant was caused by our educational system, in which we imitated all the older countries by dividing the cost of education between imperial and local sources. Every school board could go on after this bill was passed just as it did before, and there was no obstacle to the formation of fresh school boards. What the bill really did was to set up in the country districts a system which, in the opinion of the Government, was better suited to their wants. Adverting to the 27th clause, in relation to the religious difficulty, he expressed surprise that a proposal intended to secure religious freedom and toleration should have been so ill-received in certain quarters.

Mr. Asquith, in moving the rejection of the bill, acknowledged that it contained some valuable provisions, and others which, if standing alone, might have afforded a basis for amicable discussion, but these were linked with other proposals, the outcome being a scheme which would have the effect of revolutionising the foundations, dislocating the machinery, impoverishing the results, and embittering the spirit of our whole system of national education. Educational patchwork and administrative chaos were presented to them under the specious name of decentralisation. He did not hesitate to say that the

constant raising of the minimum standard of educational efficiency for many years past was due to the impartiality and the unsleeping and ubiquitous activity of the Education Department. During the last quarter of a century there had been in this country two great propelling educational forces, *viz.*, the Education Department and the school boards, and of these two forces the bill proposed to paralyse one and to cripple the other. If it could be shown that either in the voluntary schools or the board schools there were cases where, for lack of resources, education was being insufficiently provided, he should offer no opposition to a proposal for a grant on certain conditions. The first condition was that the money should be impartially distributed as between voluntary schools and board schools; the second condition was that the money should be spent on the improvement of education, and that consequently a local contribution in some form should be an essential condition of every grant; the third condition was that schools should introduce into their management some public representative element. Dealing next with the 27th clause, he declared that the agitation in favour of the measure was a clerical agitation. If this clause were passed the children attending large schools would be herded into separate theological pens, branded with the names of their particular sects, and taught under conditions which must compel them to attach the main importance, not to those truths which united, but to those doctrines which divided them.

It would be useless to follow in detail the speeches of all who took part in the five nights' debate allotted to this stage of the bill. The general result of the vote was clearly anticipated by the leaders of the Opposition, who, if not coerced by their more Radical followers, would probably have avoided pressing the question to a division. Of those who took part in the debate, the most interesting were those who gave reasons for separating themselves from the party with which they were accustomed to act. Mr. G. Dixon (*Edgbaston, Birmingham*), a Liberal Unionist who had taken a prominent part in the Education Act of 1870, was looked to as the unofficial spokesman of those who, like Mr. Chamberlain, had abandoned the attitude they formerly held towards the endowment of denominational schools. Mr. Dixon, after some hesitation, had decided to support the second reading of the Government bill, finding in it some proposals deserving of attention, although others would have to be carefully amended in committee. As to the religious clause, he did not find that it had been accepted by a large portion of the country as a satisfactory settlement of the difficulty. On the contrary, it had been said that the difficulty would be thereby increased and not settled, and in these circumstances he hoped the Government would come to the conclusion that it would be better to withdraw the 27th clause. In connection with the question of decentralisation, he sug-

gested that the Government should carefully consider whether it would not be worth while to continue the present system of inspection. In his judgment it would be advisable for the Government to carry out their plan in the agricultural districts and to continue the present system of school boards in the large towns. He strongly objected to school boards being interfered with in the manner proposed by the bill, and also to the proposed 4s. special grant to voluntary schools.

The Irish members, who on the first night of the debate (May 5) had heard and accepted Mr. Gerald Balfour's explanation of the Irish Education Bill, until the last night (May 12) had preserved silence as to their intentions with regard to the English bill, but on that occasion Mr. T. P. O'Connor (*Scotland, Liverpool*), on behalf of the Catholic Irish in England, and Mr. Dillon (*Mayo, E.*), on behalf of the Nationalists in Ireland, gave expression to their views. The former considered it was his primary duty to make himself the representative of what his own people regarded as their political and religious principles, and therefore he agreed with the main proposals of the bill as far as Catholic schools were concerned. He pointed out, however, various defects in the bill, and observed that all Catholic authorities concurred in thinking that the 4s. grant would be merely an alleviation of the grievance under which their schools suffered. As for the scheme of decentralisation, it was more calculated to prejudice than to help the Catholic schools. Mr. Dillon's arguments were curiously inconclusive to ordinary minds, for holding that the bill would produce the maximum of disturbance while giving the minimum of relief, he thought Irish members would act wisely, however, if they confined themselves to the Catholic claim, and therefore he intended to support the second reading, although he was of opinion that the proposed 4s. grant was ridiculously insufficient. Personally, he objected to the principle of decentralisation, as he felt that the Catholic schools had a much better chance under the Education Department than they would have under the new local authorities. It was with the deepest pain that he should go into the lobby against those that had been the allies of the Irish party, but he really had no choice in the matter.

Mr. A. J. Balfour (*Manchester, E.*) at length on behalf of the Government summed up the debate, Sir. Wm. Harcourt having shown no sign of wishing to take part in it. Dealing first of all with the "vulgar financial aspect" of the measure, he calculated that if all the children in voluntary schools in England and Wales were brought up in board schools it would cost no less than 4,200,000*l.* a year to transfer the educational duties from voluntary schools to board schools. Nobody interested in local taxation could contemplate such an enormous additional load upon our rates without something akin to absolute despair. There were, however, other aspects of far greater importance.

The first of these might be described as the local government aspect of the question. He maintained that the present dual system of local government was injurious to the constitution of our municipal bodies. Nobody for a moment denied that the school boards had done excellent work, but the question was whether the work could not be done better by means of concentration than it was at the present time. Adverting to the religious aspect of the question, he said the plain issue before the House was this: "Do you mean to continue a system which will gradually but inevitably squeeze out of existence in a large part of the country every school which is by law permitted to teach denominational religion?" The Government believed that the bill would effect great reforms in our educational system, in local government, and in official decentralisation, and they trusted that on these grounds every educational reformer in the House would give it his hearty support.

An attempt to prolong the debate having been met by the closure, the House then divided on Mr. Asquith's amendment, which was negatived by 423 to 156 votes—or by more than a hundred in excess of the normal ministerial majority. The bill was then read a second time without further opposition, and the committee stage arranged to be taken after Whitsuntide.

The result of this division was the signal for angry recriminations on the part of the Liberals. The Nonconformist conscience was irritated, if not shocked, by the ingratitude of the Irish, who on a measure affecting only England and Wales had voted against those who had loyally supported the cause of Irish Home Rule. Amongst the Dissenters, the Congregationalists were the first (May 14) to give expression to the general feeling of their body. They bitterly denounced the proposal to allow Roman Catholic priests to teach Roman Catholic children their parents' faith, and declared that if board schools were to be turned into the happy hunting grounds of the priest, they would certainly refuse to pay the education rate. Dr. Berry, the chairman-elect of the Congregational Union, declared amid loud cheers that after the Anti-Parnellites had deserted them as they did on the Education Bill division, Irish Home Rule must be "postponed to a date which could not be guessed." This attitude was still further emphasised in an article in the *Methodist Times* (May 21), which said that when Mr. Dillon sat down after speaking in favour of the bill, "Gladstonian Home Rule uttered its last sigh and died. So ends one of the most heroic, tragic, and distressing chapters in the history of England."

In the intervals of the debate on the Education Bill the Government had succeeded in getting the Finance Bill—founded on the Budget resolutions—read a second time (May 4), but not until it had been subjected to some sharp criticism. Practically the bill only dealt with certain remissions to be made

on the death duties imposed by Sir Wm. Harcourt, and proposed to surrender only about 200,000*l.*, by exempting certain classes of trust property, and works of art and objects of national and historical interest not yielding income. Sir Wm. Harcourt naturally defended the principles upon which his Finance Act had been founded, of which his successor was reaping the fruits. With regard to the Budget proposals, he greatly doubted whether there was any solid foundation for the great faith of the Chancellor of the Exchequer about next year's expenditure on the Navy, in South Africa, and in the Soudan. Sir Wm. Harcourt then proceeded to dilate on the distinction between local and imperial finances. The contributions to local taxation amounted at the present time to nearly 11,000,000*l.*, and the Government proposed to raise that sum to 13,000,000*l.*, which meant 6½*d.* in the pound of the income-tax. With that money the Government might give a free breakfast table and take 4½*d.* off the income-tax. His profound conviction was that it was impossible to conceive a greater waste of money than was involved in these subsidies, which disappeared like water in the sand.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir M. Hicks-Beach, in reply reminded the House that in introducing the Budget he explained why he did not feel himself justified in attacking any of the main principles of Sir W. Harcourt's scheme with regard to the death duties. He had been taunted with not having made any provision for future expenditure. In answer to that he could only say that it passed his understanding to see how he could have made any such provision. He could only provide in this matter for the finance of the year. Sir M. Hicks-Beach then dealt with three other points in respect of which he had been subjected to severe criticism. In all those matters, however, he had simply followed the example of Sir Wm. Harcourt himself. It was true that the Government retained the increased beer duties, but they proposed at the same time to give substantial relief to the agricultural interest. With regard to the subsidies in relief of local taxation he might mention that for 11,000,000*l.* out of the 13,000,000*l.* he was not specially responsible. Sir W. Harcourt had continued the subsidies because no Chancellor of the Exchequer could possibly repeal them.

The bill was then read a second time without a division, and a week later the committee stage was reached. Beyond a fruitless attempt to exempt Indian, Ceylon and colonial teas from taxation (May 11) the consideration of the bill in committee was postponed for a couple of months.

Mr. Balfour, when proposing to take the whole of the time of Parliament except Friday evenings for public business (Apr. 29), had explained the intentions of the Government with regard to the bills already introduced. He said that they were resolved under any circumstances to pass the Agricultural Rates Bill and the Education Bill into law. The fate of the Irish Land

Bill, on the other hand, trembled in the balance, and, if treated by the Irish members as a measure requiring elaborate discussion, it would be impossible to get it through within the limits assigned for the session. Adhering to the order then announced, as soon as the second reading of the Education Bill had been agreed to, the Agricultural Land Rating Bill was put down for discussion, and was pushed forward in face of a steadily increasing and persistent opposition. All the instructions were ruled out of order by the Speaker except that of Mr. Knox (*Derry*), which proposed to extend the provisions of the bill to Ireland. Mr. Knox, in moving this, declared that it was most unfair not to treat Ireland exactly as England was treated. The Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr. Balfour explained, however, that Ireland was not included in the bill because the different conditions prevailing in Ireland made such inclusion impossible. Ireland would have a separate grant made to her, calculated on the principle adopted when the last grant in aid of local taxation was made out of the imperial exchequer. The Irish members not being satisfied, a division was taken, and the instruction was negatived by 278 to 108 votes.

Mr. Lloyd-George then moved an amendment to the first clause, making the bill apply only for three instead of five years. On this he was (after the closure had been passed) defeated by 120 (268 to 148). The next most important amendment was that of Mr. Channing (*Northants, E.*), which sought to divide the rates between the owner and occupier. Mr. Courtney (*Bodmin, Cornwall*) urged the Government to accept a modification of the proposal, which would apply only to new tenancies. Mr. Chaplin and Mr. Balfour, though not very hostile, showed unwillingness to embark upon a new and complicated issue, but ultimately the discussion was adjourned until the next sitting (May 20), when Mr. Chaplin announced that he could not accept Mr. Channing's proposal to divide the rates or Mr. Courtney's more moderate amendment. In the course of the debate that followed this announcement Mr. Balfour declared that, accustomed as he was to the Scotch system, "which worked admirably," he was not going to say a word against it. He thought it indeed the best system, but he was not going to risk the destruction of the present bill by overloading it with a matter foreign to its main principle. Ultimately Mr. Channing's motion was negatived by 110 votes (223 to 113). Another important amendment, moved by Mr. Jeffreys (May 19), a Conservative squire (*Basingstoke, Hants*), to make the relief extend not only to land, but to "buildings used solely for agricultural purposes," was rejected by 326 to 53 votes.

Two more sittings and the closure were required (May 19, 20) before the first clause of the bill as amended by a few verbal alterations was passed. The object of the Opposition was by moving countless amendments—often only verbal and trivial—to prolong indefinitely the discussion of the details of a measure to

the principle of which they sincerely objected. In the eyes of the Radicals the bill was an indirect attempt to benefit landlords to the extent of 1,000,000*l.* sterling out of the imperial taxes, and to defeat this scheme they considered themselves justified in using all constitutional checks. When the House met again (May 21) the intention of the Government to carry through the bill was pretty generally known. The determination of the Opposition to block the bill was equally clear. Throughout the whole of the evening the confusion grew more and more marked. The twelve o'clock rule having been suspended, the sitting became continuous. The closure had to be invoked to pass each clause. On putting the question that "clause 4 should stand part of the bill," certain members of the Opposition persisted in remaining in the House after the members on the Government side had gone into the division lobbies. The Chairman having called upon the members to vote, and on their refusal left the Chair, the Speaker was sent for at 3.20 A.M. (May 22) and the matter reported to him with the names of Mr. Lloyd-George (*Carnarvon District*), Mr. J. H. Lewis (*Flint District*), Mr. Dillon (*Mayo, E.*), and Dr. Tanner (*Cork, Mid*), as being amongst those who had disobeyed the Chair. The Speaker called on the members to explain their conduct, and they declaring their intention to persist in resisting the authority of the Chair, the four members—Mr. D. Sullivan (*Westmeath, S.*) associated himself with them—were named and on the motion of Mr. Balfour were suspended from the service of the House. Another attempt to report progress resulted in the removal of Mr. J. O'Connor (*Wicklow, W.*) by the Sergeant-at-arms, after which the House continued to discuss the various amendments; and at length, at 1.30 P.M. (May 22), having sat continuously for twenty-one hours, the bill as amended was reported to the House, the only real concession made by the Government being in respect of cottage gardens exceeding a quarter of an acre, and all land kept mainly and exclusively for sporting purposes, to which the benefits of the bill were not to be extended. At the same time, it was understood that the points excluded from debate by the closure should be raised later on the report, and the business set down for Friday having been relinquished the House adjourned for the Whitsuntide recess.

Outside Parliament opinion had been gradually crystallising itself with respect to the Government measures, especially the Education Bill. There was a general lull in continental politics, the eyes of all being for the moment turned to the splendid pageant at Moscow, of which wars and rumours of wars were not to mar the harmony. It was not that any settlement of the Armenian question had been proposed, but the concert of Europe was reduced to temporary silence by the want of a common understanding among the performers. Russia, which practically ruled the band, refused to give the lead, and the

efforts made by England to arouse the other Powers to a sense of moral responsibility were met by scarcely veiled expressions of distrust, and often by direct acts of unfriendliness. Lord Salisbury at length found himself reduced to a policy of barren expostulation, rendered the less effective by the doubts aroused by the Nile expedition, for which he put forward the shadowy justification that we were bound to restore Egypt to her former magnitude before we resigned, "if we are to resign," the trust placed in our hands.

In South Africa the rising of the natives in Matabeleland had increased the tension of feeling in the Transvaal, and rendered the course of negotiations more perplexing. Advantage was taken of the movement by the Boers to increase their armaments in an extraordinary degree, whilst the slightest movement of British troops to relieve their own fellow-countrymen at Buluwayo was denounced as a menace to the Transvaal Government, and it required a very strongly worded reply from Sir H. Robinson to President Krüger before the latter would learn the limits of British forbearance. Possibly if President Krüger and Mr. Chamberlain had been perfectly free agents an honourable and lasting settlement between the two countries might have been arrived at; but on the one hand was the Hollander faction and on the other the Chartered Company. The more prominent members of the former, which represented the strongest anti-English feeling in the Republic, had been granted various monopolies which they worked without scruple or regard to any interests but their own, irritating the British and exciting the suspicions of the Boers. The Chartered Company, on its side, was believed to have been ready to overthrow the Transvaal Government, at least in those districts which, as it is believed, were rich in gold and other products necessary for their commercial success. For reasons which did not seem altogether convincing the British Government had decided to postpone the inquiry into the complicity of the company until after the conclusion of the Jameson trial, and very naturally the Boers were easily persuaded to see in this delay a desire to allow the Chartered Company to escape.

Sir William Harcourt, speaking at the dinner of the National Liberal Club (May 5), scarcely alluded to the South African difficulty, but amused his hearers with a bitter criticism of Lord Salisbury's Armenian policy, and comforted them by the assurance that the Government majority would soon melt away like snow before the summer sun. The most telling part of his speech was that directed against the Nile expedition, and the very economical expression of our intent to make war with limited liability, in which Mr. Chamberlain had declared the object of the Government: "We are going as far as we can, limited by the resistance we shall meet." This was exactly, said Sir William Harcourt, the spirit of Sir Andrew Aguecheek when the duel was arranged.

But it was on the day after the division on the Education Bill that the leader of the Opposition showed himself at his best. He had taken no part in the debate which had ended so disastrously for his party, probably caring little to run the risk of unwelcome retorts and interruptions. Speaking at Tredegar (May 13) amongst his own constituents, largely composed of Dissenters, he was sure of a sympathetic audience. He began by repudiating Mr. Balfour's criticism of the Liberal party that it was always occupied in setting class against class. Passing next to the Education Bill, of which the aim was the extinction of the board schools, he urged that it was never put before the country. The scheme was that out of 500,000*l.* to be given to education, 460,000*l.* was to go to the voluntary schools or schools of the rich, and 40,000*l.* to necessitous board schools. School boards must always be a better body to deal with education than any committee of a County Council; because the people who sought election on school boards were people who cared about education. He doubted whether the rural schools, now said to be bad, would get from a local authority the pressure by which alone the central department had kept them up to the requisite standard. Between the school boards, the local authority and the central department he predicted perpetual strife. The competition of board with voluntary schools had been and would be healthy for the latter, and not, as argued, unfair, while the bill was to hamstring the board schools, pinning them down in their expenditure. As to religious teaching, there was a broad basis of Christianity common to almost all denominations upon which the board schools, whose success had been highly valued by the Archbishop of Canterbury and other bishops, had founded their teaching. The Government plan was to reintroduce the religious difficulty, from which for twenty-five years we had been free.

On the following day at Newport (May 14) Sir William Harcourt dealt almost exclusively with the Agricultural Rating Bill and Mr. Balfour's denial that it was an endowment of the landlords, and that the Opposition had used this argument to sow dissensions among classes. Sir William Harcourt's view was that any aid to rates out of taxes should be divided between landlord and tenant. He thought, however, the system of applying the produce of imperial taxes to local purposes, already carried out to the extent of 11,000,000*l.* a year, was expensive, and in experience found to give little relief to rate-payers, while the additional 2,000,000*l.* to be added to this sum was to go to one class alone. The necessary consequence of such legislation—namely, giving similar assistance to the urban community—would cost the Exchequer 12,000,000*l.* Had the object of the Government been to relieve only the farmer, the rate should have been divided between the owner and the occupier. The actual proposal was to give a dole in

all places irrespective of their prosperity or distress, the whole country being taxed, for example, to pay half the rate for a man who had got agricultural land in the neighbourhood of a great town which let at 3*l.* or 4*l.* per acre. For this and other similar reasons he denounced the whole measure as unjust class legislation of the worst description.

Whilst the Radical leader in the Commons was thus addressing himself to his Welsh constituents, his colleague, whom, however, he did not recognise as his chief, Lord Rosebery, was visiting Devonshire, of which county one at least of the Radical members had failed to accept Sir William Harcourt's estimate of the Agricultural Rating Bill, and had refused to acknowledge the right of the party to override the wishes of his constituents. Speaking at Newton Abbot (May 15) Lord Rosebery, after dwelling on the uses of adversity for the Liberals, spoke upon the Education Bill, the second reading of which had been passed by a majority painfully significant. He remarked that among all the speeches that had been made in support of the bill during the debate, there was scarcely one that did not contain some rooted objection to some portion of it. With regard to religious instruction, he was concerned not so much for pious parents as for those who were indifferent, over whose children there would be a struggle of sects. The school boards would have to fight not only against the permanent gain to the voluntary schools of the 4*s.* grant, but also against the hostility of the Government which practically avowed the desire to supplant them. The Agricultural Rating Bill, he went on, whomsoever it benefited would not benefit the labourer, nor, as the agricultural class was not the only one which needed relief, could this kind of legislation stop with them. Turning then to colonial and foreign affairs, he expressed a hope that the policy to be pursued with regard to the Transvaal would not be hurried, since by precipitate action much might be lost and nothing gained. On the other hand, with regard to the promised inquiry, promptitude was most essential, and the most searching and impartial investigation was due not merely to South Africa, Europe, and ourselves, but also to the accused. In this connection he thought the Government had erred in postponing the inquiry till after Dr. Jameson's trial and also in proposing to carry it out by a Parliamentary Committee, which would only sit as long as Parliament sat. With respect to the Armenian problem, he contended that his Government, by securing the institution of a commission of inquiry and sketching a plan of reforms, had bequeathed to Lord Salisbury most formidable weapons, and that though they had not requested the co-operation of other Powers, it was because the time for such an appeal had not then arrived.

There was nothing very definite in the position taken up by Lord Rosebery, who was still regarded as the leader of the

Liberal party; but what attracted more attention was the marked way in which he abstained from any reference to his colleagues. Rumours of his resentment at the scant courtesy he received from those in the House of Commons began to circulate once more, especially when it became evident that a course of action was frequently decided upon by them without any reference to him. The reasons alleged were that the ever-changing necessities of the Opposition in the Lower House often necessitated prompt action upon which it was impossible to take his opinion. More probably Sir William Harcourt saw that if he was to strengthen his own position it was by leaning towards the Radical section of his party, which had resented the selection of Lord Rosebery as Premier and the maintenance in office of so many of Mr. Gladstone's personal adherents, whose only claim was that they had followed every change in their leader's fortunes and opinions.

The Liberal Unionists, since their existence as a political factor had been so liberally recognised in the constitution of the new Ministry, had been comparatively silent. The great question upon which they might be supposed to hold views totally at variance with their Conservative colleagues was that of education. They were identified especially with Birmingham and the Midlands, where, in 1868, the National Education League had been founded, had strenuously fought for the cause of undenominational education, and had forced Mr. W. E. Forster to modify his famous bill. At the present juncture, therefore, when the Liberal Unionists were sharing the responsibilities of the Government, the production of a measure so openly favouring denominational schools made the need of an apologist obvious. As Lord President of the Council the Duke of Devonshire was, in theory at least, responsible for the Education Bill; and as it was in Wales especially that such a measure was likely to provoke the keenest hostility, he announced his willingness to publicly defend the line taken by himself and his Liberal Unionist colleagues, and Swansea was selected as the most favourable spot. He first addressed (May 20) a small Unionist audience in the Drill Hall, and afterwards a large mass meeting. In the former speech he dwelt especially on the almost unexpected Unionist victories in Wales, where seats were gained through the disgust felt by moderate Welsh politicians at the log-rolling which offered the Disestablishment of the Welsh Church less on grounds of justice than as a kind of payment to Welshmen for the support given by them to Irish Home Rule. At the evening meeting the duke dwelt on the carelessness with which constituencies ignored great imperial interests, almost under the illusion that nothing could endanger the imperial interests of the United Kingdom. Then he attacked Lord Rosebery's description of England as "the predominant partner" in the United Kingdom, declaring that such a phrase assumed that there was a partnership which

might one day be dissolved; and he pointed the moral of the recent breach between the English Nonconformists and the Irish Catholic Home Rulers, remarking that it proved to demonstration what Unionists had always asserted, that the majority of the last Government was attained by the conclusion of a treaty between Irish Catholics and English Nonconformists—who had absolutely no political principles in common—to support each other in doing what one of them at least did not wish to do, only on condition that the other should also consent to do what that other, in his turn, did not wish to do.

The duke then spoke on the Education Bill, pointing out how completely the Opposition were at sixes and sevens on the meaning and drift of this bill, how they confounded school boards with board schools, and how it was the Opposition, not the Government, who, by making it impossible to get a single shilling out of the rates for any school which was not more or less controlled by the ratepayers, compelled the Government to give the support which the voluntary schools needed, if they were not to be extinguished, out of the imperial taxes. He also pointed out that the present bill gave no power at all to suppress a single school, though it gave the people of any locality the right to choose whether its schools should be managed by a school board or by any authority appointed by the County Council. It was, he said, the natural outcome of the “strong preference on the part of a very large number of parents for schools in which they may be able to have their children instructed in the religion which they themselves profess,” and of the strong resentment felt, rightly or wrongly, by many people that the education rate should be continually increased for the purpose, as they thought, of crushing these schools out of existence. With this preference and this resentment ministers had to deal. All that was wanted to give schools of both kinds an equal share in the Parliamentary grant was that they should also be allowed an equal share in the rates. The last point that the duke dealt with was the charge of degrading school boards. The ratepayers would in future have to decide whether existing or proposed rate-supported schools should be managed by the school board or by the new and larger local authority set up by the bill. If to give those who had to raise the money some control over its administration were to degrade education, then, and then only, the case against the bill had been made good.

The Nonconformists after this speech must have recognised that they had little to expect from any schism among the Liberal Unionists on the Education Bill; and the Government might have felt confident in its general acceptance, especially after the emphatic endorsement it had received on the second reading. Scarcely, however, had Parliament separated for the Whitsuntide holidays than misgivings seemed to arise amongst the most hearty supporters of the measure; and among the local school boards a feeling showed itself that they were to be set aside

and their five and twenty years' work ignored or reversed. Mr. Balfour was made aware of this feeling, and wrote a letter to show that he never said that the Education Bill was intended to destroy school boards and school board schools. On the contrary, it was intended to preserve them so long as they did their work well. Indeed, what he did say was that the bill proposed to set in working order a machinery by which school boards might, and as he hoped, eventually would, be superseded by bodies under the direct management of the county or town municipalities.

Scarcely was this doubt allayed than a rumour was set agoing to the effect that, in the event of any vexatious opposition being made to the Government bill, the method of closure by compartments would be adopted. Considering the attitude taken by the Unionists when this method had been resorted to in the debate on the Home Rule Bill of 1893, such a course would have been evidence of the most cynical political inconsistency. Professor Dicey, who took the lead in protesting beforehand against such a course, wrote: "Where will the Unionists be at the next general election if every Radical orator can take up a copy of the Education Act, and point to section after section which has been passed through the House of Commons without debate?"

There never was any evidence that the Government intended to act upon the policy with which they were credited, especially by their opponents; but some of their friends—the candid ones, of whom Mr. Courtney was the most prominent—were convinced that the bill as it stood had no chance of passing into law. He, therefore, suggested in a letter to the *Times* (May 29) that the Government should withdraw their Education Act for the session, and in place of it propose to Parliament to sanction temporary aid to the voluntary schools, deferring for another year any kind of legislation, thereby gaining time to reconsider materially their plan of decentralisation. This suggestion was at first met by a torrent of objections, but it showed that in impartial minds doubt already had sprung up as to the value of the bill, and of the time required to surmount the objections which might be taken to its numerous and complicated clauses.

CHAPTER IV.

Two Bye-Elections—The Light Railways Bill—The Irish Land Bill—The Education Bill in the Commons and Convocation—Unionist Meeting at the Carlton Club—The Proposed Winter Session—A Change of Tactics—Education Bill Withdrawn—The Benefices Bill—The Soudan Expedition and the Employment of Indian Troops—Mr. Chamberlain and the British Zollverein—The Agricultural Rating Bill in Committee and in the Lords—Marriage with Deceased Wife's Sister Bill—The Scotch Relief of Rating Bill—The Cost of Indian Troops in Egypt—The Irish Land Bill—The Venezuela Difficulty—Sir W. Harcourt at Holloway—Mr. Chamberlain's Defence of Mr. Balfour—Mr. Balfour's Self-defence—The Irish Land Bill in the Lords—The Jameson Trial—The Committee of Inquiry—General Legislation—Cyprus and Crete—Close of the Session.

WHEN Parliament met once more after the Whitsuntide recess the situation of the Government seemed externally unchanged, and those who looked only at the surface anticipated that the session would close without serious hindrance of the ministerial programme. The most important measures had passed through their earlier stages, not without opposition, but they had divided their opponents; the administration of affairs at home and abroad had been marked by no serious blunder; and although a Cretan difficulty had suddenly arisen, and the Christian population of the island seemed in danger of sharing the fate of the 80,000 murdered Armenians, there was no disposition on the part of the British public to interfere with Lord Salisbury's course of action; and although the decision to make the Indian Treasury bear the whole of the cost of the Indian troops despatched to Suakim had given rise to much adverse criticism, there was no serious desire on the part of the nation to interfere with the progress of the Soudan campaign or to inquire too closely into its aims and objects. Nevertheless there were influences at work below the surface which showed that the ministry were not as heartily supported or so thoroughly trusted. In two districts, as far apart as Somersetshire and Caithness-shire, bye-elections were lost by the Unionists. In the Frome division, Lord Alexander Thynne, a younger brother of the late member, Lord Weymouth, was defeated by a majority of 383 votes. The Liberal candidate, Mr. J. E. Barlow, who at the general election had obtained 4,660 votes, now polled 5,062, whilst the Conservative poll dropped from 5,093 to 4,763 votes. The Wick Burghs, which since 1892 had returned a Liberal Unionist, Sir John Pender, now veered back to their former Radical opinions and returned Mr. Hedderwick on a larger poll and by a far larger majority than Sir John Pender had ever obtained. Inside the House of Commons, moreover, doubts were being freely expressed as to Mr. A. J. Balfour's qualities as a leader. He was reproached with being unable to submit to the dull routine of its work—to grow weary of the constant watchfulness requisite to catch the various moods of the House on his own side and on that of his opponents. His amiable qualities, which were

freely recognised on all sides, prevented that plain speaking which some few years previously had led to the revolt against the Conservative leaders, but none the less certain was the dissatisfaction of many who had expected greater results from a ministry supported by an overwhelming majority. The truth was that outside the House of Commons the ministerial bills had attracted little support and aroused no wave of popular feeling. They had been drawn obviously in favour of specific classes or interests, but the safeguards introduced against an unrestricted enjoyment of the benefits promised sufficed to stifle any intense enthusiasm for their success. This attitude was very distinctly visible in the weary debate on the Light Railways Bill (June 1) as amended by the Grand Committee on Trade. To ordinary observers the bill was wholly non-political, although introduced by the Government; it proposed that Parliament should aid to the extent of 1,000,000*l.* the local authorities who proposed either to construct such lines themselves or in conjunction with companies on existing lines. Advances in the shape of free grants or loans would be made after careful inquiry in cases where the construction was likely to benefit agriculture or fisheries in poor districts; and in certain other cases for developing rural districts the State might contribute up to 25 per cent. of the capital required in the shape of 3½ per cent. debentures. The bill having been read a second time (March 2) by 205 to 67 votes was referred to the grand committee, where it had been carefully discussed and considerably amended. Under such circumstances it might have been supposed that the further consideration of the bill by the whole House would be purely formal. Instead of this, debate was allowed to occupy several nights. Every point which had been raised by the objectors in the grand committee was revived by the same persons or their friends in the House, or, what was still worse, by one or two members in particular whose absolute ignorance of the subject under discussion was only equalled by their callous indifference to the time they wasted in meaningless talk.

On the other hand, the Irish Land Bill, which might have been expected to arouse great hostility, was allowed to pass its second reading (June 8) with the barest shadow of opposition. Mr. John Morley (*Montrose Burghs*), however, who represented the official Radicals, confined his remarks to two blots—the manner of dealing with improvements, and the scheme relating to the statutory terms. He appealed to the Chief Secretary to consolidate the Irish land laws into a single act which reasonably educated landlords and tenants could readily understand. Mr. T. Healy (*Louth, N.*), to mark his divergence from Mr. Dillon, who had described the bill as “a fraud or a humbug,” disclaimed all intention of obstructing its progress, although he admitted that it fell very far short of what it ought to be. He insisted that all improvements should be presumed to have been made by the tenant, unless there was evidence to the contrary, and that

there should be no limit of time. This, he maintained, would not injure the landlord, who was abundantly protected if his right to the improvements was established. Colonel Saunderson (*Armagh, N.*) put the case for the landlords with his usual humour and keenness, dwelling upon the high prices paid for tenant-right—sometimes from twenty to thirty years' purchase—as evidence that the farms were not over-rented. He dissented altogether from Mr. T. W. Russell's (*Tyrone, S.*) view that the solution of the Irish problem lay in the abolition of dual ownership, and contended that if the present landlords were abolished, landlordism in another shape would reappear, as already it had done in the case of purchasing tenants, who sublet the land they had bought. The tenants, he declared, preferred a landlord who would give time and abatement, and could in the last resort be shot at; whereas the Government as landlord was to be moved neither by pity nor fear. Mr. J. E. Redmond (*Waterford*), whilst expressing his conviction that the bill would not solve the land question, said that no respectable Irishman wanted it wrecked, and, after a few words from Mr. Dillon (*Mayo, E.*), the bill was read a second time without a division, and an attempt to refer it to the Standing Committee on Trade, moved by Mr. T. M. Healy (*Louth, N.*), supported by Mr. J. Morley and Sir Wm. Harcourt, was defeated after a short debate by 153 to 92 votes, on the understanding that the committee stage should be taken forthwith.

The original intention of the Government seemed to be that the Education and Irish Land Bills should as far as possible be advanced through the committee stage *pari passu*. The object of this arrangement was obvious, for the Irish members would in this way be kept within reach should any need for their votes on the Education Bill be required by the Government. Practically, however, it was found that this plan could not be carried out, for the amendments on the latter bill were heaped up so rapidly in the order book that it was only by daily debate that any progress could be expected. The Church party were opposed to any curtailment of the discussion; and although they were beginning to realise that only a part of the bill could become law this year, they were desirous that security should be taken for the ultimate acceptance of the principles of the bill. These principles were, first, the transfer to the local authorities, representing large administrative areas, of a part of the powers exercised by either existing school boards or the Education Department; and, secondly, the recognition of the right of the parents to have their children taught the religion to which they belonged. The Church party insisted, with some show of reason, that undenominational teaching should be paid for by undenominationalists, and denominational teaching by denominationalists, or that both alike should be paid by the State; and they maintained that, when once the administration of the education grant and of the education rate had been vested in

one and the same local authority, it would not be long before reasonable people came to see the inconsistency of admitting one class of schools to a share in both, and restricting another class to a share in only one. With the Church party holding these views, and in full knowledge of the hostility of the Dissenters, the Ministry were scarcely to be blamed if they allowed it to be bruited about that certain parts of the bill might have to be dropped. The difficulty, however, was to say what were the points which would be equally vital or unimportant in the eyes of all, especially as the measure was made up of compromises between the two hostile schools. Within the Cabinet itself there was probably no minister to whom every clause was satisfactory, and throughout the bill the principle of reciprocal concession had been pursued. The Convocation of York occupied a considerable portion of its sittings (June 3-5) in discussing the Government bill, and all the bishops of the province were present, and were practically in accord with the Lower House on all vital points. They decided that rate aid and not State aid was indispensable for the voluntary schools of the North. Up to 1891 the Lancashire voluntary schools had managed excellently on the children's school pence, ranging from 6*d.* to 8*d.* per week, and the substitution of a Government fee grant of 10*s.* per child had been found to act most disastrously. The bishops in convocation, therefore, with a large majority of the Lower House, decided to claim rate aid, and to accept with it such an amount of ratepayers' representation on the boards of management as might be found consistent with due regard to the religious character of the schools; the archbishop, Dr. McLagan, strongly insisting upon the need of unanimity if the wishes of the clergy were to have weight with the House of Commons.

This result, however, seemed difficult to obtain, or else the northern synod very inadequately represented clerical feeling in the North, for following upon the closing of the synod, in a letter to the *Times* (June 9), the Vicar of Leeds, the chairmen of five Yorkshire school boards, and two chairmen of Church school associations, protested in the strongest terms against a scheme which would alienate public sympathy from voluntary schools and seriously damage the educational influence of the Church. Lord Cranborne, who took a strong churchman's view of the question, commenting also on the views of the synod, declared that the financial purposes of the bill were entirely inadequate, that the special aid grant would every year become more and more insufficient, and that for the purpose of diminishing the inequality of resources of voluntary as compared with board schools, either the school boards themselves or the next Liberal majority could, and probably would, render the grant futile. The Bishop of Chester (Dr. Jayne) was of opinion that the vote of the northern convocation would go far to sound the death knell of the dole

policy in education, whilst he regarded the financial proposals of the Government with dismay rather than with enthusiasm, the 4s. grant being insufficient, and the 6s. grant a mere dole. The Bishop of London (Dr. Temple) took a somewhat broader and at the same time more hopeful view of the ministerial measure and its probable effect. He thought that Lord Cranborne and the Bishop of Chester were carried off their feet by the majority for the second reading, their argument being, as he read it, that since the voluntaryists were so strong they might ask for a great deal more. "But what is it (Dr. Temple asked) that we desire to save? Is it not the Church schools? And why do we attach so much value to the Church schools? Is it not because of their Church character? Now the Church character of these schools mainly depends upon the appointment of the teachers. Our schools are Church schools because we appoint the teachers without any interference, and are bound to see that they are religious churchmen. If we cease to hold this power our schools will in course of time cease to be Church schools, and we might just as well agree at once to the universal establishment of school boards and make use of the power proposed to be given in the 27th clause of the bill, of sending teachers of our own into the board schools to give the religious instruction to the children that belong to us. We have been allowed to hold our Church schools till now because we have made heavy personal sacrifices to maintain them. Our subscriptions have not only convinced the country that we are in downright earnest in this matter but have saved the country a considerable amount of money. And if our brethren in the North find this burden too heavy I entreat them to consider whether it will not be better for the Church that they should surrender some of their schools to the school boards than that they should put the whole body of Church schools on the slippery slope of support from the rates."

With views so conflicting, from friends and foes alike of equal authority, the House of Commons was invited to proceed with the discussion of the Government bill, no indication being given as to whether any or what portion would be dropped or postponed to another session. There was a great clearance of "instructions," both by the Speaker before leaving the Chair (June 11) and by the Chairman, Mr. J. W. Lowther, as soon as the House was in committee; but their joint action failed altogether to keep pace with the amendments which were put down, until every line of each section seemed smothered by friends who desired to improve or opponents who sought to shelve the Education Bill. There would be no use in going through the proceedings of the five long sittings devoted to the consideration of the first section, of which not even the first two lines were passed; but the course adopted by the critics of the bill was instructive, as showing how a measure adopted in principle by an unprecedented majority could be rendered imperative without the objectors incurring the charge of obstruc-

tion. On clause 1 (action of County Council as education authority) the first amendment allowed to be in order was moved by Mr. W. S. Allen (*Newcastle-under-Lyme*), whose attempt to postpone it was negatived by a majority of 141. Mr. Luttrell (*Tavistock, Devon*) then moved that the District Councils instead of the County Councils should be the education authority. This amendment, touching one of the leading principles of the bill, was discussed at great length and finally negatived by 298 to 125 votes, showing the Government to be strongly supported by more than their own followers. Then, however, came the first and most irretrievable blunder on the part of the Ministry. One of its warmest supporters, Sir A. Rollit (*Islington, S.*), moved that every municipal borough should appoint an educational committee for the purposes of the bill. To this substitution of an indirectly for a directly elected body Sir John Gorst (*Cambridge University*) objected, as opposed to the spirit in which the bill had been framed. A long discussion ensued, which was finally ended by Mr. A. J. Balfour throwing over his subordinate and accepting the amendment so far as boroughs of 20,000 population and upwards were concerned. This concession, however, in itself led to renewed discussion, Sir John Gorst intimating that the appointment of the new education authority was an essential portion of the bill.

Before the committee resumed, a meeting of the Unionist party was held at the Carlton Club (June 15), when Mr. Balfour spoke very plainly on the condition of public business. He pointed out how much more difficult it had become to pass an Education Bill now than it was in 1870. The number of speakers competent to criticise the bill minutely was enormous compared with those who then discussed the organisation of national education for the first time. He suggested that as he was anxious not to prolong the session beyond the middle of August, and yet to pass the Education Bill, it would be absolutely necessary either to closure in compartments or to drop large portions of the bill or to prolong the session. To the first course the Government objected on principle, as it rendered the real discussion of the measure practically impossible; and to the second because it must mutilate a great measure which ought to be carried as a whole. He proposed therefore to adjourn the House in August to an early day in January, and then to finish the bill before the middle of March. Parliament would then be prorogued and a new session at once commenced, which would probably not extend beyond the middle of August.

This proposal was, strange to say, cordially received by the great mass of those present, Mr. L. Courtney being alone in pointing out that there might not be sufficient time to get through all that would be needed in the period allotted, and that then there would be no means of avoiding a collapse. As soon, however, as Mr. Balfour's proposal was known outside, its

unpractical nature was exposed. It simply meant giving the opponents of the bill a free hand. These would know that financial and constitutional reasons rendered a new session obligatory before a certain date, and it would only be necessary to multiply amendments indefinitely—no difficult matter—and to discuss them leisurely and the month of March would be reached with half the bill still untouched.

Meanwhile outsiders realised more promptly than members on either side that Mr. Balfour's concession had opened the door to an almost endless series of consequential proposals. When the House met again (June 15) Mr. S. Evans (*Glamorganshire, Mid*) moved an amendment empowering the councils of urban districts with a population of not less than 20,000 to appoint education authorities. This proposal was resisted by Sir John Gorst, on the ground that already the number of separate education authorities was too numerous, and that if these urban districts were let in, the Welsh Intermediate Education Act would be upset, as it was entirely based on the assumption that the education authorities were to be appointed by either County Councils or county boroughs, and not by urban districts. Sir William Harcourt rallied Sir John Gorst on Mr. Balfour's concession to the boroughs of 20,000 inhabitants, and declared there was no distinction between them and the urban districts of equal population, Mr. Balfour replying that there was all the difference in the world in the habits and the traditions which the exercise of municipal rights had formed, but the amendment was ultimately defeated by a majority of 122 (265 to 143). Mr. Bowles (*King's Lynn*) then proposed to make parliamentary boroughs which were not up to the 20,000 limit of population competent to appoint the education authority, but was defeated by a majority of 153 (281 to 128), and soon afterwards the House adjourned.

On the next day (June 16) the debate first turned upon Sir John Lubbock's amendment to the effect that wherever the area of a school board was conterminous with that of the County or Borough Council the education authority should be a body representing both the school board and the County or Borough Council. This Sir William Harcourt turned into a new second reading debate by a vehement speech, chiefly on the general principle decided in the second reading, remarking that the objects of the bill appeared to be, according to the bishops in their interview with Lord Salisbury, to check school boards in their competition with voluntary schools. Sir John Gorst declined to reply again, remarking that a new body composed out of two different bodies would have to appoint officers and officials of their own, which would much complicate the whole procedure. He added, however, that it was not proposed that the new education authorities should interfere in any way with the operations of efficient school boards. Major Banes, a Unionist (*West Ham, S.*), made a very rough speech against

the Government which gave extreme delight to the Opposition, and eventually the discussion was closed by a majority of 85 (219 to 134), and then Sir John Lubbock's amendment was rejected by a majority of 74 (212 to 138).

On the following day (June 17) the discussion dealt chiefly with the representation of minorities, for which apparently the Opposition wished, though after inveighing against the scheme of the Government for giving too much power to the local authority, they now denounced it because it was prepared to give it too little, and to make the education authority, when once established by the County or Borough Council, just as independent of it in its executive work as a Watch Committee was of a Municipal Council. Mr. Atherley Jones's amendment proposing to make the County or Borough Council themselves the education authority was rejected by a majority of 175 (293 to 118).

The next sitting was marked by an important expression of feeling from the Conservative side of the House. After Mr. Stuart (*Shoreditch*) had moved an amendment limiting the operation of the measure to education other than elementary—in other words to confine the new education authority to secondary education—Sir W. Harcourt proposed to the Government to drop the part of the bill creating an authority that was intended in many cases to supplant school boards, to give the new grant-in-aid to voluntary schools, subject to reasonable conditions for popular management, and then to proceed with the bill with the help of the Opposition at a much more rapid pace. Of course this condescending offer was declined by Mr. Balfour, and though Sir J. Kennaway (*Honiton, Devon*), from the Conservative benches, kindly advised the Government to drop the bill, Mr. Morton's proposal to report progress was rejected by a majority of 123 (254 to 131), the closure was voted by a majority of 114 (256 to 142), and Mr. Stuart's amendment was rejected by a majority of 131 (258 to 127).

In the interval which occurred before the consideration of the bill was resumed indications came from other sources that the Ministry had realised that their measure had no chance of being passed, partly on account of its own defects, partly on account of the vast number of interests it touched or provoked, but especially because, being essentially a bill of compromise, it provoked no enthusiasm amongst those whom it was prepared to benefit, but not in their own way.

At a meeting of the Conservative members of the Midland Union at Birmingham (June 17), Mr. Chamberlain reminded his audience that "Scripture had been ransacked" by the Gladstonian party to find terms strong enough to decry Liberal Unionists for opposing Irish Home Rule, yet now a number of those opponents had acknowledged frankly that they knew the Home Rule policy to be dangerous to the country; that they had deserted their co-religionists in Ireland because they expected to obtain the support of the Irish Nationalists for an

attack upon the Church of England. No sooner was a denominational education bill proposed than the Irish Nationalists found themselves compelled to support the denominationalist policy. Passing to the Education Bill, Mr. Chamberlain declared that the only part of the bill to which the Government was pledged was that which would save voluntary schools from extinction, and he then went on to foreshadow the course which the Government would adopt.

When the House again met (June 18) Mr. Balfour rose at once to announce the decision at which the Government had arrived with regard to the future progress of that measure. Having briefly alluded to the statement he had made on the previous Monday, he said the committee were entitled to an explanation and a justification of the change which had since occurred. Under the plan of the previous Monday fifty-three days might have been allowed for the passage of the bill into law, and the Government thought that would be an adequate time for the purpose, but the character of the discussions had shown that that length of time would be quite insufficient. In five nights only two lines of the first clause had been passed. The Home Rule Bill had been in committee only five days when Mr. J. Morley moved the closure on the first clause, which set up an Irish Parliament in Dublin, and yet they had now been engaged for the same time in discussing the first two lines of a measure that merely entrusted to existing local authorities duties which those authorities were thoroughly competent to perform. In her old age the Mother of Parliaments was becoming somewhat garrulous, and under the circumstances it was obviously impossible for the Government to adhere to their scheme. No fewer than 1,238 amendments had been placed on the paper, and, allowing that 20 per cent. were friendly amendments which might be withdrawn or accepted by the Government, 960 would still remain to be dealt with. Assuming that only these 960 hostile amendments had to be disposed of, and that it would be necessary in all cases to resort to the closure and to divide twice on every amendment, forty eight-hour days would, supposing there were no discussion whatever, be occupied in the healthy but barren process of walking round and round the division lobbies. In the face of such opposition the idea of finishing the bill before a new session must necessarily begin in March next was wholly chimerical, and this state of things would not have been improved by the expedient of an autumn session. Therefore the Government were content to sacrifice the eleven days already spent on the bill and to begin the subject afresh early next January, in order to fulfil their pledges to the voluntary schools. It was urged that with a majority of 150 they ought to adopt the closure by compartments, as their predecessors did with a majority of 15, but in his judgment, whatever changes might be made, this method was not one which the Government could recommend to the committee. Mr. Balfour

said the Government were still pledged to aid voluntary schools, and that the relief which it was intended to give to them would not be much delayed. With regard to the credit of the Government, he confessed he did not feel moved by any of the objections he had heard under that head. Undoubtedly they had made a miscalculation and the result had been the loss of eleven days of parliamentary time. Still, he was too familiar with incidents of this kind to feel that this was in any respect an important factor in the perennial contest between the two sides of the House, as he hardly remembered a year in which a measure of equal magnitude had not been abandoned by the Government of the day. There were, however, much more important issues than the credit or discredit of a particular Government or minister. That which did not depend upon the changes and chances of political life was the permanent credit of the House of Commons. It should be remembered that the members of the House, and they alone, were the guardians of that credit. The press, however well instructed, and the great mass of the community, however politically zealous, could never form a true estimate of the procedure of the House. It was from this point of view that he deeply regretted the evidence of parliamentary decay which last week especially, but in some respects the whole of the session, had shown. To those who were careful of the fame of the House of Commons these incidents portended great mischief in the future. They were ominous, he feared, of inevitable changes, though this was not the time at which those changes could be discussed. Therefore, having explained and, as he hoped, justified from every point of view the decision of the Government, he now begged to move that the Chairman should leave the Chair.

Sir W. Harcourt replied in a speech which was as magnanimous in tone as it was vigorous in style. He expressed his regret that Mr. Balfour had spoken of the course taken by the Opposition and of their responsibility for the loss of the bill, but omitted to say how far he himself and his colleagues had contributed to that result. As the first clause made a revolutionary change in the system of elementary education the Opposition, being averse to the projected transfer of authority, naturally and properly devoted their energies to the defeat of that section of the bill. The only amendment passed was carried at the instance of a supporter of the Government against the opinion and judgment of the Vice-President of the Council, and everybody knew that the carrying of that amendment was a fatal blow dealt against the bill. Many of the County Councils condemned the measure, and the Government ought to have known that their scheme would necessarily create an internecine conflict between the boroughs and the counties. In his opinion it was not a discredit, but a credit, to have defeated this bill. It had perished in consequence, not of any factious opposition, but of its inherent imperfections. The Opposition were bound to

object to the vital principle of the bill, because there was a deliberate intention to wreck the school boards, and, although they were weak in the division lobby, they were strong in argument, which had in the end prevailed. One main reason why the bill failed was because it was founded on party principles, and was designed to serve the interests of a particular sect. Moreover, the attempt to put a slight on the school boards had been met in the country with repugnance and opposition. The bill had failed, because it had in the House of Commons been conducted under a mandate from the House of Lords. If next year the Government came forward with a measure not framed in the interests of a party and not intended to promote the objects of a sect, they would not be met on that side of the House with any obstructive opposition.

Doubtless the course adopted by the Government was the best way out of an awkward position. It was obvious that even a fraction of the bill could only have been carried by extraordinary methods, which the Unionists were prevented from employing by their denunciations of their opponents' use of them. But Mr. Balfour was not wholly accurate in his account of the parliamentary situation. The entire reconstruction of the system of elementary education set up in 1870 came upon the Liberals as a complete surprise, and they naturally expected to find in it means of detaching votes from the Government. The bill was in many respects a good bill. Its main principle, that of decentralisation, was an experiment in a direction unfamiliar to the general public. It made an honest, if inadequate, endeavour to grapple with the main source of our educational difficulties, the rivalry between board and voluntary schools, and the "intolerable strain" upon the latter. It boldly attempted the hopeless task of laying to rest the sectarian jealousies hindering educational work, and tried to give security for religious teaching in elementary schools on a principle of simple justice, that parents should have the right to claim such teaching for their children in accordance with their own convictions. But the Government who brought it forward very imperfectly understood it, and were at issue among themselves as to many of its provisions. The leader of the House himself was obviously at sea in details, and practically wrecked the measure by an ill-considered concession, in direct opposition to his lieutenant in nominal charge of the bill. It raised without attempting to settle a host of thorny questions; and the bill itself was swamped under a mass of amendments. Nor were the hands of the Government strengthened, as they should have been, by agreement among the friends of religious education as to what help they wanted, and how it should be given. No general conference of all interested in religious teaching was held or attempted to be held. Representatives of the Anglican Church, the Roman Catholic hierarchy in England, and the Wesleyan body interviewed the Prime Minister,

each offering their own remedy from their own point of view, and either ignoring or disparaging any other. Nonconformists, who for twenty-five years had had religious teaching that satisfied them provided in board schools at the public expense, bitterly resented the attempt to do justice all round in this matter, and to secure in those schools for parents who were not satisfied with that teaching the religious instruction which they desired. Nor could the members of that Church in whose interest, as the chief supporters of voluntary schools, the bill was principally framed, agree among themselves. On one point all, including the Roman Catholics, agreed that the proposed aid was inadequate. But they had hitherto been hopelessly divided upon whether the aid given should take the form of a parliamentary grant or a charge on local rates—of “state aid” or “rate aid,” the latter implying the presence of ratepayers’ representatives on their boards of management. Moreover, the omission of the Government to draw any clear distinction between matters of principle and matters of detail gave opportunities to those who disliked portions of the bill to give effect to their misgivings. The debate, however, in committee on the first clause showed plainly that the Government had no clear notion of their own intentions. Most of their supporters imagined that the crucial principle of the clause was that the chief local educational authority was to be, not as heretofore the school boards, but committees appointed and controlled by councils representative of large areas and wider-spread opinion. This view, however, was completely upset by Mr. Balfour’s compromise on Sir A. Rollit’s amendment, and again by Sir John Gorst’s comparison of the Education Committee to a Watch Committee. Either ministers had not been at the pains to master the first clause of their bill, or they had been obliged to conciliate opposition in their own ranks by postponing their authoritative exposition to the latest possible moment. For these and other like causes the great bill of the session disappeared from the order book, without real regret from any party.

Although superficially at least there was nothing in common between the Education Bill of the Government and the Benefices Bill brought in by Viscount Cranborne (*Rochester*), beyond the common fate which befell them, both aroused the hostility of certain Churchmen as well as of Dissenters. The refusal of the House of Commons to adjourn over the Derby Day allowed the bill, as amended by the Standing Committee of Law, to be discussed (June 3). It was bitterly opposed by a small group of Tories, of whom Mr. H. S. Foster (*Lowestoft, Suffolk*) was the spokesman, who seemed more indifferent to Church scandals than to the rights of the property. Their efforts to impede the progress of the bill were ably seconded by the Nonconformist Radicals, who considered it a duty to prevent a State Church being improved. “It was quite true,” said Mr. Foster, “that

the right of selling an advowson was not taken away by the bill, but it imposed a number of restrictions upon the exercise of private patronage in future, the admitted effect of which would be to largely reduce the market value of the property." On the other hand, the leader of the Radical Disestablishment groups, Mr. Carvell Williams (*Mansfield, Notts*), opposed the bill on the ground that "it was certain to have a disintegrating influence on the Church; it would produce bitterness of feeling and distrust of the bishops, and it would hinder the future progress of the Church." On the next occasion (June 10), when the bill was talked out, Mr. Carvell Williams appeared in a character more natural to him, moving an amendment to prevent any monetary payment whatever for the acquisition of the rights of patronage. Lord Cranborne fought persistently for the bill, and displayed considerable tact in advancing the debate, but there was not sufficient enthusiasm among its supporters to overpower the hostility of its opponents, and the Government having declined to give special facilities for the discussion of the remaining clauses, it was finally abandoned.

The advance of General Kitchener from Wady Halfa to Firket had been so rapid that the crushing defeat of the dervishes at the latter spot was consummated before any debate on the motive and object of the expedition could be discussed in Parliament. All that had been officially stated was that the Sultan having requested the Khedive to express his views with regard to the advance of the Egyptian troops in the Valley of the Nile, the Khedive had replied that the British and Egyptian Governments were agreed that the moment was opportune for the recovery of Dongola, which was part of a province of the Soudan formerly under Egyptian administration. An expedition had accordingly been despatched thither by the order of the Khedive. A few weeks later (May 11) it transpired that the British Government had decided to send certain Indian troops to Suakim to replace the Egyptian garrison, which, with the exception of one battalion, it was decided to move to the Nile Valley. Almost simultaneously it became known that the Indian Government would be called upon to pay the cost of these troops, although they were virtually engaged to support the operations of the Egyptian army. A loud outcry was raised in England and Scotland against the shabbiness of such a policy, it being known that the demands upon the Indian Treasury already imposed upon the natives burdens they supported with difficulty. It was asserted, moreover, that before such a step had been taken Parliament should have been consulted, and the incidence of the cost discussed. The Secretary for India, Lord George Hamilton (*Ealing, Middlesex*), however, in reply to Sir Charles Dilke (May 12), said that according to precedent no resolution was necessary for the employment of Indian troops out of India unless a charge were imposed upon the Indian revenues for the purpose. He undertook, moreover,

that before any decision was arrived at as to the incidence or apportionment, the views of the Indian Government would be fully considered. In the actual case, however, the ordinary pay and allowances of the Indian native troops being borne by the revenues of India, no resolution would be required.

Another point which the Opposition desired to bring out more plainly was the part played by Italy in the sudden decision of the Sirdar to advance up the Nile Valley. The defeat of the Italian troops on the Abyssinian frontier, and the consequent threatening of Kassala and other points held by the Italians, had produced a painful effect in Europe. The situation, although serious for Italy, was not one which called for the intervention of her co-partners in the Triple Alliance, Germany and Austro-Hungary. If, however, by creating a diversion in the Valley of the Nile Egypt, acting under the influence of England, could mitigate the dangers which threatened Italian prestige in North-east Africa, Italy's good offices with Germany might ensure England a majority in the vote on the liability of the Egyptian *caisse* for a whole or part of the expenses of the expedition. It was, however, stated by the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs (June 2) that the visit of the Italian Ambassador to Lord Salisbury had taken place on March 10, after her Majesty's Government had under consideration communications from Egypt as to the threatened advance of the dervishes.

Mr. J. Morley, speaking at a conference held at Leeds (June 3) to oppose the Government policy in the Soudan, made the most of Mr. Curzon's reluctant admissions. Dealing with the various reasons given for the advance, he said that the first object alleged was the defence of the Egyptian frontier; but when pushed for further information the Government had changed its front and admitted that the actual frontier was a good one. When asked what was to be the new frontier, the Government replied that they could not tell. "The good new frontier which we wish to substitute for the old bad one is to be the farthest point that we can reach until we meet a resistance that cannot be overcome by the financial and military resources at our disposal." The most important part of Mr. Morley's speech was, however, his treatment of the "aid to Italy" side of the argument. He analysed the Italian Green-book, and showed that the order to advance was telegraphed to Cairo the day after the Italian Ambassador in London had told the Prime Minister at the Foreign Office "that there was some risk—or the Governor of Massowah thought there was some risk—of the dervishes hovering round Kassala making a union with Menelek, who was their enemy. The Ambassador suggested that possibly a diversion on the Nile might be of some use." The Italians, however, were not very grateful, and replied that the Dongola demonstration was "of very slight military use to them." What followed was most curious. A protest was reported from the Egyptian authorities in regard to

the suggested evacuation of Kassala, which had "produced a most painful impression in Egypt." Accordingly the British Ambassador at Rome begged the Italians not to evacuate Kassala, and they agreed not to do so, at any rate till the autumn, unless they were absolutely obliged. This strange tale of course gave Mr. Morley a great dialectical opportunity. "I will give it you in one sentence. We start for Dongola in order to relieve the strain upon the Italians at Kassala. The Italians, as these passages show, remain at Kassala in order to relieve the strain in Egypt. Now really, can the political grotesque go farther than that? We advance in order to relieve Kassala, they hold Kassala in order to prevent painful impressions in Egypt." Mr. Morley's assertion was promptly (June 5) answered by Mr. Curzon in the House of Commons declaring that on March 12 Lord Cromer was informed by telegraph that the Government had decided to authorise an advance of the Egyptian troops along the Nile Valley.

The Government had previously been in communication with Lord Cromer and the military authorities, but no previous communication had taken place with any European Powers. These, however, were subsequently informed that the advance of the troops had been authorised and the objects of the expedition explained to them. Mr. Labouchere (*Northampton*) thereupon rose and moved the adjournment of the House in order to call attention to a definite matter of public importance—the action of the Government in keeping back from the House communications between them and the Italian Government, and between them and Lord Cromer, with respect to matters connected with military operations in East Africa. His main point was that the Government, while professing that they had undertaken the Soudan campaign in the interests of Egypt, had really done so in the interests of Italy, and he quoted copiously from the recently published Italian Green-books to show that information had been freely given to the Italian Parliament which had been studiously withheld from the British Parliament. The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Curzon (*Southport, Lancs*), complained that the debate had been sprung upon him without notice, and simply declined to answer questions of which he had had no previous intimation, and he denied that there was any considerable correspondence which had been withheld from the House. As to the summaries of diplomatic conversations published in the Italian Green-books, they had been published in Rome without having been submitted to her Majesty's Government, and no doubt it was due to the political crisis through which Italy had recently passed that this somewhat novel course had been pursued. But no responsibility for explanation was thereby imposed upon her Majesty's Government. Sir William Harcourt (*Monmouthshire, W.*) contended that Mr. Curzon was setting up quite a new diplomatic doctrine—that of refusing all informa-

tion whatever to Parliament—and he pointed out that the constitutional doctrine was that, when we are engaged in war, the fullest information should be given to Parliament as to causes of the war. Mr. Balfour pointed out that in carrying on a war with the Mahdi there was inevitably no diplomatic correspondence undertaken such as would be carried on before a war broke out between civilised Powers. Such correspondence as had taken place between the European Powers would be laid in due time before the House. There had been no withholding of information, and precedent had been strictly followed, and he censured Italy, in conclusion, for having published in her Green-books matter which she ought first to have obtained the sanction of her Majesty's Government for making public. He hoped what had happened was exceptional and accidental, for no confidential communication could go on between European Powers unless greater discretion was observed than the Italian Government had shown, and her Majesty's Government were certainly not going to follow their example. It fell to the lot of Mr. Dalziel (*Kirkcaldy Burghs*) to import, quite by accident, a new interest into the discussion. He was assuming that the summaries of the diplomatic conversations between Lord Salisbury and the Italian Ambassador were absolutely accurate, and were admitted to be so by her Majesty's Government, when Mr. Balfour startled the House and Mr. Dalziel by exclaiming with some emphasis, "We do not admit it!" "Do you deny it?" asked Mr. Dalziel, in evident surprise, and Mr. Balfour replied that it was not usual to deny the statements put forward by other Governments, but he repeated, "We do not admit it," and after a moment's pause he said again, with an emphatic shake of the head, "We certainly do not admit it." The debate then came to an end, the motion for adjournment being negatived without a division.

In the House of Lords the subject was also discussed, and a fuller explanation of the position of affairs was given by the Prime Minister, whom Lord Rosebery questioned (June 12) as to the nature, objects and extent of the Soudan expedition, and he expressed the view that the Upper Chamber was equally entitled with the House of Commons to have information of this sort communicated to it, and to have it direct, for Lord Salisbury must be anxious to avoid misunderstandings and wishful to explain his policy. The Marquess of Salisbury, in reply, explained that it had been clear for a long time that it would be necessary to take steps in the direction of recovering that Egyptian territory which was lost some years ago. Without going into controversial matters, he pointed out that we accepted the sole occupation of Egypt in 1882, but in 1884 the trust which we accepted was diminished by one-half. That was not a satisfactory state of things, and he did not consider that as a permanent arrangement. It would not be safe to leave Khartoum permanently in the hands of the Mahdi. He

would have preferred to wait for some time before attempting to recover the ground that had been lost, for there were many reasons—financial, political and otherwise—which made delay expedient. But we were suddenly confronted by the fact that Kassala was threatened by the dervishes and might fall, probably with a frightful massacre. The preservation of Kassala was a matter of interest not only to Italy, but to Egypt, and that was the origin of the expedition to Dongola. He spoke highly of the result of the campaign so far as it had gone, and declared that the effect had been to dissipate the notion that the Egyptian troops could not fight when led by officers who knew how to train soldiers. He explained that, as to the extent of the expedition, the instructions given were that it was not to proceed beyond Dongola, but up to that point Sir Herbert Kitchener had been given an entirely free hand. But Lord Salisbury did not desire for a moment to conceal the fact that the ultimate object was not to stop at Dongola. The reason why it could not go farther at present was financial, for Egypt was alone among the Powers of Europe in being unable to borrow money. If any of the millionaires who spent their money in supporting raids and invasions would come forward and offer to carry the expedition farther, he did not say that the Government would be deaf to their entreaties. There might have to be other steps taken in future, and he was of opinion that we should not restore Egypt to the position in which we received it, or place it in a position of safety, until the Egyptian flag floated over Khartoum. Lord Rosebery pointed out that this statement was not consistent with the statements made by her Majesty's ministers in the House of Commons, for Mr. Chamberlain had described the restrictions put upon the advance, not as financial, but as dependent upon the amount of resistance to be encountered by the expedition, while the Chancellor of the Exchequer had declared, and had declined to withdraw the declaration, that nothing in the nature of the reconquest of the Soudan was in contemplation. Lord Salisbury, however, insisted that there was no inconsistency, as it was not intended to go beyond Dongola at present. The subject then dropped, but was renewed at a later date, when the question of the employment of Indian troops was simultaneously raised in both Houses.

During these busy and exciting times Parliament had occupied the time and attention of the ministers and left little time even for the leaders of the Opposition to appear in public. The congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the empire held in London (June 9), presided over by Mr. Chamberlain, was an occasion which the Secretary for the Colonies could not allow to pass without special notice. He commenced by dealing with a proposition put forward by Birmingham to create an imperial council for consultation and advice on which the various colonies and dependencies of the empire should be represented, whilst

the carrying out of its decisions was to be left to the mother-country. Mr. Chamberlain, however, rejected as impracticable the idea of getting our colonies to adopt free trade, and so place themselves on the same basis as the mother-country, and also the idea that we should abandon free trade and impose duties on all foreign products which our colonies produced, on condition that our colonies should make a small discrimination in favour of British trade. Either of these proposals would require, he thought, far too great a sacrifice, the former on the part of the colonies, the latter on our own part. But he treated with some favour the suggestion that we might make a kind of Zollverein with our colonies, which would introduce practical if not absolute free trade between the various countries of the British Empire, we agreeing to impose moderate duties on a certain number of important articles which our colonies produced in large quantities when imported from foreign countries, and which from our colonies we should admit duty free—such articles as corn, meat, wool, sugar. This proposal, made by the Toronto Board of Trade, Mr. Chamberlain thought might even be accepted by orthodox free-traders, seeing that it would be the greatest advance ever made towards free exchange, since it would practically establish free trade between 300,000,000 of men.

When this important suggestion came to be discussed, it soon appeared that it evoked great diversity of opinion. Sir Douglas Smith, the High Commissioner of Canada and the delegate of the Montreal Board of Trade, wanted to go beyond the Toronto proposal, and lay down the principle that Great Britain and her colonies were to concert a scheme for preferential treatment of all the states in the empire. The Victorian delegate, Hon. Robert Reid, thought it impossible for Victoria (Australia) to give up protection, and could not ask the United Kingdom to give up free trade. The president of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce was totally opposed to a system of preferential duties and the sacrifice of free trade, and Mr. Holland, president of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, took the same line, and so did Mr. Burnie, president of the Swansea Chamber. On the following day the divergence of opinion developed itself still further. Mr. Colmer, representing the Board of Trade of Sydney, Cape Breton, Canada, thought that a preferential treatment by England of some twenty or thirty articles produced by the colonies would quite satisfy the colonies, while speaker after speaker expressed the view that the time was not ripe for any practical measure of commercial union. The colonies directly could not rely on direct taxation, and must trust to import duties, and England dared not abandon free trade. The result was that while it was agreed to keep a closer commercial union with the colonies in view, it was possible only to refer the subject back to the various sections of the empire for consultation and discussion.

If the proceedings of the congress led to no practical results in the direction indicated by the president, his speech afforded a text for one of Mr. John Morley's best platform speeches, delivered (June 17) at the meeting of the National Reform Union at Manchester. It was pitched in a somewhat high key, but as its aim was to raise the spirits and encourage the hopes of the Radical party its exultant tone was not out of place. He began by laughing at the disappointment of the bimetallists, for whom the Government, on which they had built their hopes, would do nothing. He contrasted the promises made by the Unionist candidates before the general election with the lack of performance since, and characterised the Government as one of haphazard and harum-scarum. Ministers had floundered into a great mess, and by their amazing device for getting out of the mess they had made that mess a hundred times worse than it was before. Speaking of the Education Bill he said they all wanted to aid voluntary schools, but they did not want to see school boards degraded. But all the influence which had prompted this bill had come from the clergy. They had given bad advice; they were not men of business, and they never would be. He did not intend to examine the bill in detail, because he considered that for all parliamentary purposes it was defunct. He objected to Mr. Chamberlain's proposed Zollverein for the empire as being likely not only to destroy the formation of our own trade, but to sow the seeds of ill-will and friction with our colonies. After the adoption of the report a resolution was carried to the effect that the council declared that the abolition of the House of Lords as a legislative body was the first and paramount duty of the Liberal party, and instructed the executive committee to direct the resources and energies of the union mainly to the education of the electorate on that question, with a view to obtaining a direct mandate for it from the people at the next general election.

The abandonment of the Education Bill was not only a serious blow to the prestige of the Unionist Government but it gave its opponents fresh heart for further attacks upon its legislative proposals. The fact, moreover, that the underlying principle of the next most important measure of the Ministry, the Agricultural Rating Bill, was the taxing of one class for the benefit of another, gave strength to the oft-repeated charge of class-legislation. The bill had, as has been recounted, been forced through its committee stage and reported to the House. But Mr. Balfour had promised that before being read a third time opportunity should be given to discussion of several points shut out by the use of the closure. When, therefore, the bill again came before the House (June 23) it was to find its further progress barred by a fresh batch of amendments which the Opposition determined to debate at length. At the outset an attempt was made by Sir Henry Fowler (*Wolverhampton, E.*) to shelve the bill altogether on a question of procedure, the

standing order to refer all financial bills to a committee of the whole House not having been observed. The Speaker, however, ruled that the standing order was so drawn as not to make that course obligatory, and the House proceeded to discuss the new crop of amendments. Of these the most important were that by Mr. Price (*Norfolk, E.*), that arable land should pay one-quarter and agricultural land three-quarters of the existing rates—negatived by 252 to 116 votes; that by Sir J. Pease (*Barnard Castle, Durham*), limiting the relief to land let on annual rent of less than 25s. per acre—negatived by 208 to 100 votes; that by Mr. J. A. Pease (*Tyneside, Northumberland*), limiting it to land on which the total rates exceeded 2s. 6d. in the pound—negatived by 129 to 66 votes; that by Mr. Seale-Hayne (*Ashburton, Devon*), excluding from the benefits of the bill all tenants whose rent might be raised after its passing—negatived by 216 to 102 votes; that by Mr. J. Stuart (*Shoreditch*), exempting from the operation of the bill agricultural land situate in a borough or within the Metropolitan Police District. This amendment led to a long discussion which was not closed before the House adjourned. On the resumption of the debate (June 24) Sir Wm. Harcourt made a bitter attack upon the principle of the bill, which, he said, under the pretence of relieving agricultural depression used public money as a gift to the owners of land that was not in a distressed condition. After a long and somewhat heated discussion, and the aid of the closure having been invoked, the amendment was negatived by 236 to 131 votes; and before the House rose one clause of the bill was finally passed.

The amendments on clause 2, providing for the payment of relief out of the local taxation accounts, were chiefly directed towards the machinery of the bill, but none of them found favour with Mr. Chaplin, the minister in charge of the bill—and after a long sitting this and the two following clauses were added (June 24) to the bill. The interval of “automatic” supply suspended the discussion for a day; but when the House next met (June 28), the twelve o’clock rule having been suspended, it was obvious that the Ministry had determined to finally dispose of the bill. Mr. Balfour opened the debate by reading the terms of reference to the commission on the incidence of local and imperial taxation on real and personal property. The commissioners were to inquire into the existing system of taxation, and to report whether real and personal property were equitably taxed; and if not, what alterations in the law were necessary to secure that result. The monotony of rejecting all amendments was broken by the adoption of one by Mr. Jeffreys (*Basingstoke, Hants*) providing that where a hereditament consisted partly of agricultural land and partly of buildings, used only in connection with farming, the assessment should not be increased by a separate valuation of the buildings. This was opposed by Sir Wm. Harcourt and the Liberals generally, but was ultimately adopted by 275 to 109 votes. The chief

part of the sitting, however, which was extremely dull, was taken up by the Opposition leaders attacking the Government generally for the mismanagement of the business of the House—to which the Government retorted by declaring the present Opposition to be the most factious ever known. At length, after repeated application of the closure, and the House sitting for nearly eighteen hours, the report stage was concluded at 8 A.M. (June 29). These proceedings, however, did not exhaust the resources of the Opposition, of which the leaders decided on the most unusual course of a full-dress debate on the third reading. This was led off by Mr. Asquith (*Fife, E.*), who, in moving the rejection of the bill, argued that the agricultural interest did not need relief, because since 1815 the rent of agricultural land had increased by 3,000,000*l.*, whilst rates had, taken all round, fallen from 4*s.* to 2*s.* 3*d.* He pressed home also the suggestion that the measure had been introduced in order to compensate the landed interest for the Finance Act of 1894. Sir Henry Fowler (*Wolverhampton, E.*) followed by declaring that there would be no relief to agriculture, because the more distressed land was not rated at more than 10*s.* per acre, and such land would only get 6*d.* per acre in the way of relief. A more serious attack was made upon the principle of the bill by a Conservative, Mr. G. Whiteley (*Stockport*), who maintained that the bill, by imposing additional rates upon the operatives of Lancashire and Yorkshire for the benefit of the farmers and landowners, would alienate the former at the next election, and cause the loss of several seats to the Unionist party. Sir Wm. Harcourt, in closing the debate on his side, made good use of a circular sent out by a Welsh landlord, pointing out to his tenants that the Government bill would “amount to exactly the same thing” as the landlord’s 8 per cent. reduction in rent. He concluded by declaring the bill had its origin in the same spirit which inspired the Corn Laws. The money would be taken from the poorest classes, and in many cases given to the richest. The measure was unjust, odious and invidious, and would be bitterly and justly resented.

Mr. Balfour’s reply was eminently tactful if not as powerful as the onslaught. He showed how absurd it was for the Opposition to declare at one moment that the Government was pouring enormous sums of money into the pockets of the landlords and at the next moment to assert that the supposed relief to agriculture was utterly worthless and contemptible in amount. He congratulated Sir William Harcourt on having at last, after many previous experiments, brought his speech against the bill to perfection, and had no doubt that much effect would be produced by it upon country platforms during the recess. But he doubted whether the country shared Sir William’s views, or whether Sir William would hold them himself in five years’ time, when another general election was at hand. Eventually Mr. Asquith’s amendment was rejected by 292 against 140, and

the bill passed without further opposition. But even on this critical occasion two Radical rural members, Mr. Perks (*Louth, Lincolnshire*) and Mr. Strachey (*Somerset, E.*), voted against the amendment, whilst two others—equally strong Radicals—Mr. Luttrell (*Tavistock, Devon*) and Mr. Lambert (*South Molton, Devon*), the spokesmen of the tenant farmers in the West of England, abstained, suggesting that the measure was not so unpopular in the agricultural districts as the Radical borough members pretended.

The progress of the bill through the House of Lords was naturally more rapid, for the landlord interest which was there almost exclusively represented was ready to welcome any relief to their tenants or to themselves. On the second reading (July 9) Lord Harris spent just an hour in explaining the bill and advocating its adoption, and Lord Farrer about half that time in moving its rejection. Both peers travelled over familiar ground and used well-worn arguments, and the real interest of the debate centred in the speeches of the rival leaders. The Marquess of Salisbury, in defending the bill and replying to Lord Farrer, recommended that the debate should be kept within a narrow compass, as the bill was a financial one and therefore could not be altered in its details by their lordships. It was no doubt true that the benefit given by the bill would fall in different degrees on different parts of the country, but that was true of all fiscal legislation, for there were always cases where people were benefited for whom no benefit was intended, and others where those whom it was proposed to benefit did not derive so much advantage as was sought to be given to them. If they abstained from legislation because it would not affect all classes and interests alike, they would never be able to legislate at all. But the general effect of the bill would be to benefit the occupiers of the country. Lord Salisbury went on to say a word for the poor landlord, who was the mark for every sort of attack, and on whose account every measure was condemned if it could be shown to do him any good. But it was not true, as that sort of amiable argument supposed, that every landowner was a large landowner—many of them were small landowners, and he pointed out that in one county where there were 1,100 landowners who had more than 100*l.* a year, there were 5,000, excluding all who owned less than an acre or who owned only house property, who had less than that sum. The bill would benefit leaseholders, it would benefit tenants from year to year, and it would benefit small freeholders, a class that deserved consideration and whose interests ought to be encouraged. He denied emphatically Lord Farrer's assertion that the money to be spent under the bill was taken from labour and given to capital. The particular mode of relief adopted by the bill had been adopted because the Government wished to make a breach in a vicious mode of taxation which had too long prevailed, and to mark the injustice which ex-

empted personal property from bearing burdens which all property should bear alike. The Earl of Rosebery began by asserting that the Lords had a right to protest against a measure which they believed to be vicious in principle and ineffectual in practice. He did not deny the existence of agricultural distress, but he denied that it was universal, believed it had seen its worst point, and maintained that in any event it was not the only distressed industry in the country, though it was the only one for which the Government proposed to offer relief. The bill was not a remedy for agricultural distress, for the grievance from which the agriculturist suffered was not to be found in the rates he had to pay. The heaviest burden the farmer had to bear was rent, and he showed that the landlord had given the farmer far more benefit in the reduction of his rent than the bill could possibly give by its proposed reduction of rates. It would not matter so much if the dole were to be given only to the distressed districts, but it was given universally and indiscriminately, and more was being given to the prosperous Lancashire farmers who paid 2*l.* an acre than to distressed Essex agriculturists who paid only 10*s.* an acre. What ought to have been done was what was done in Ireland, to schedule the distressed districts. The remedy offered by the Government was partial, incomplete and unjust, and much discontent would be produced with a very inadequate result. Finally, he asked whether the Government had considered the financial outlook. They were now "spending money with both hands" in a time of profound peace, and they would want money for North Africa, for South Africa, and for education. The money really came from the pocket of the taxpayer and that was all that it was possible to say about it, and the taxpayer would not be satisfied by being told that, instead of having a penny taken off his income-tax, 2,000,000*l.* was to be spent for the relief of agriculture. On a division, the amendment of Lord Farrer was rejected by 153 votes against 32, and the bill was read a second time.

In dealing with some ecclesiastical questions, however, the House of Lords felt themselves able to speak and act with greater freedom, and accordingly welcomed the Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister Bill, introduced (June 8) by the Earl of Dunraven, after several years of suspended animation. In 1882 the House of Lords had rejected the bill by 132 to 128 votes; in the following year it passed the second reading by 165 to 158 votes, but was rejected on the third reading by 145 to 140; whilst in 1894 it had been rejected on the second reading by 129 to 124 votes. The bill of this session recommended itself to Churchmen more than any of its predecessors, no change in the marriage law of the Church being proposed. In moving the second reading, Lord Dunraven showed considerable tact in dealing with the question; and while he declined to repeat once more the old familiar

arguments in favour of such legislation, he pointed out that in continental countries, in our colonies, in the United States and in South America, such a law existed and produced no bad consequences, either as affecting family relations or morals. Earl Percy moved the rejection of the bill, and expressed surprise that such a statement should be made without a single word of proof in its support. Lord Herschell supported the bill, and insisted that its rejection two years ago was no reason why it should not be brought in again. He had found, on consulting the canons of the early Church, that it was a mistake to suppose that they altogether disapproved of these marriages on the ground that they were incestuous. The Archbishop of Canterbury acknowledged that the present bill did not compromise the Church, and did not oppress clergymen by compelling them to perform marriages against which they had conscientious scruples, but as a citizen as well as an ecclesiastic he should deplore the passing of a bill which would create a difference between the religious law and the civil law. The House then divided, and the second reading of the bill was carried by 142 votes against 113.

Immediately the result was known, the Prince of Wales was surrounded by a number of his friends, who congratulated him on what had happened, as his Royal Highness had been known for years past to take a strong interest in the success of the measure. Both he and the Duke of York voted for the bill, as did the Earl of Rosebery, the Earl of Kimberley, and several other of the Opposition leaders. But the Duke of Cambridge left before the division was taken, and the Duke of Connaught did not arrive until it was over, and did not, therefore, record their votes. Among those who voted against the bill were the Prime Minister and other members of the Government, together with eighteen bishops, including the two archbishops.

The committee stage of the bill (June 29) was marked by a further concession on the part of its promoter, who disclaimed any intention of altering the marriage law of the Church. He accepted an amendment from Lord Halifax which provided that no clergyman should be relieved by the bill from ecclesiastical penalties to which he was liable for solemnising such marriages. Lord Kimberley and Lord Camperdown, however, objected to the maintenance of any disabilities, but declined to press their objection to a division, and the bill was recommitted to the standing committee, which, having found a few faults in it, reported it back to the House. On the report stage (July 9) Viscount Halifax moved a further amendment to clause 1, for the purpose of rendering invalid any marriage contracted in the past in wilful violation of the law and solemnised by a clergyman of the Church of England, which was negatived by 90 votes to 47. Viscount Galway then moved to omit from clause 2 the proviso that no clergyman of the Established Church of England should be liable to any pains or penalties for with-

holding the rights and privileges of Church membership from persons living together in marriages made valid by the act. This was opposed by the Bishop of Oxford, Viscount Halifax, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Lord Dunraven; but was supported by Lord Davey, Earl Cowper, and the Earl of Kimberley, and ultimately agreed to by 56 to 47 votes. This clause had formed part of the bill when read a second time, and had been retained by the standing committee, and considerable surprise was expressed by the Church party when so radical an alteration was allowed to be introduced into the measure at the eleventh hour. This discontent found expression on the debate on the third reading (July 10), when the Duke of Argyll moved its rejection in an energetic and almost passionate speech. He pointed out that there had been so much cross-voting in the division on the second reading that he could only attribute the passage of that stage to careful management and good "whipping." The debate on that occasion, he said, had been governed throughout by several main preconceptions. It had, in particular, been marked by a total and intentional omission of everything connected with what was called the religious argument, although marriage as understood all over the Christian world was the product of Christianity, and of Christianity alone. Another preconception which characterised the former debate was that they were to entirely set aside logic and logical consequences in the discussion. But if they legalised marriage with a deceased wife's sister, why should they not on the same principle legalise it with a deceased wife's aunt, or even with a deceased wife's daughter by a previous marriage? He knew of no other sound principle in reason, religion, or logic than that affinity and consanguinity should stand on the same footing in regard to marriage; and he called on the House to reject a measure that would confuse the law of England, inflict injustice on the clergy, and destroy the peace and happiness of many families.

Lord Kimberley entirely denied that the supporters of the bill had less regard for religion than the Duke of Argyll, and maintained that it was not necessary to import the religious question into the issue before the House. He did not believe in the least that this measure would bring about any of the terrible evils apprehended from it by the Duke of Argyll.

Lord Herschell in defending the measure contended with much force and authority that the Jews had never held that a man might not marry his deceased wife's sister, and he ridiculed the strained interpretation put upon the words of Scripture by the opponents of the bill. Viscount Halifax and the Bishops of Salisbury, Ely and London having spoken against the measure, Lord Dunraven closed the debate. He denied that there had been any undue haste in pressing on the bill or that the passing of the second reading had been owing to skilful management. In fact, in the matter of "whipping" the supporters of the bill,

he could not pretend to vie with its opponents, as he showed by quoting from a circular issued by Cardinal Vaughan, calling in the name of the Pope upon the Roman Catholic members to vote against the measure. A division was then taken and the bill was read a third time by 142 to 104 votes, and sent to the Commons, by whom it was not taken into consideration, sharing in this respect a similar fate to that which befell Lord Halifax's bill to amend the law relating to the marriage of divorced persons which had been piloted through the House of Lords with considerable skill by its promoter.

The House of Lords was equally unsuccessful in obtaining attention for a bill presented (July 6) by the Duke of Devonshire to enlarge the powers of the statutory commission appointed to revise the powers of the University of London. Its principal object was to make that body a teaching as well as an examining and degree-conferring body. The bill passed through committee (July 27) without difficulty, but was read a third time (July 31) only to be abandoned a few days later.

Meanwhile, the Commons, before addressing itself to the consideration of the other Government bills, occupied itself with discussing two questions dealing with British African policy, after the Lord Advocate had introduced a "Scotch equivalent" for the Agricultural Relief Bill passed for England and Wales. The first debate was raised (July 2) on the resolution to provide 3,000,000*l.* for the construction of the Uganda Railway from Mombasa to the Victoria Nyanza. Sir Charles Dilke (*Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire*) contended that it was not expedient to vote the money in the absence of fuller information on the way in which labour was to be obtained for the construction of the line. Mr. Curzon (*Southport, Lancashire*) said it was too late to discuss the principle of the Uganda Railway, which had been accepted by the House. The original total estimate had been considerably reduced by the substitution of a narrow gauge and by allowing only the minimum number of stations. The present estimated expenditure was fixed at 1,755,000*l.*, but, to leave a margin for contingencies, a loan of 3,000,000*l.* was asked, whilst with regard to labourers 3,000 coolies were already employed on the line. The resolution was eventually agreed to on the understanding that the whole question should be raised upon the bill which would have to be brought in.

The other point was that of the incidence of the cost of the Indian troops employed in East Africa. The decision of the Government to claim the amount of their pay and allowances from the Indian Government had given rise to much adverse criticism, and the home authorities were accused, by their own followers as loudly as by the Opposition, of acting shabbily towards a poor dependency. The matter had aroused considerable ill-feeling in India, and even in the Viceroy's Council, formed of Government nominees, the proposition had been carried by only seven against four votes. The Government

were strongly urged by their supporters in the press as well as in Parliament not to stand upon the letter of their rights in this matter, and to avoid the risk of being tainted with readiness to tax the Hindoo and Mussulman peasants of India whilst the landlords of England were being relieved of a grievous burden. The Government, however, having shown themselves weak and yielding on more than one occasion, were determined in the present to show their stubbornness, and thereby invited the Opposition to make a full-dress debate out of a mere vote in Supply. In view of the attitude taken by the Unionist press and by many Conservative speakers, the Opposition could take no other course, and accordingly an entire night (July 6) was given up to the debate. The Secretary for India, Lord George Hamilton (*Ealing, Middlesex*), in moving the resolution showed that it was the ordinary practice to charge India with the ordinary expenditure of Indian troops when used for purposes in which India herself had an interest. This, he contended, was eminently a case of this nature, and but for India British interest in Egypt would be very considerably diminished. The amount payable by India was very small, not exceeding 5,000*l.* per month for ordinary expenses, whilst the extraordinary expenses estimated at 140,000*l.* for the whole campaign would be defrayed by the home Government. The expenses charged on India were only to last until the end of the year, when, if the Indian troops still remained in Egypt, a fresh arrangement would be made. In answer to the allegation that the demand was unjust to India, the Secretary of State said that this point had been carefully considered by the home Ministry. The Indian Government maintained that since the neutralisation of the Suez Canal India had no special interest in Egypt over and above other portions of the empire, but he thought it was evident India still had a special interest in Egypt. Regarding the question from a broad imperial point of view, her Majesty's Government had come to the conclusion that the proposition laid down by the Indian Government was one to which they could not assent, however much they might sympathise with the complaint. It was impossible to admit that India had not a special interest in Egypt, as it was of vital importance that there should be security for the shortest route between India and this country. Egypt was in fact the natural stepping-stone between India and England. In a recent despatch he had laid down principles which, he believed, would meet the requirements of the case and satisfy the demands of India. Her Majesty's Government wished to reduce to the smallest dimensions the war which they had inherited from their predecessors. The past policy of this country had led to discredit and disaster, but the policy of the present Government had resulted in the victory of the Egyptian troops at Firket.

Mr. J. Morley (*Montrose Burghs*), who, in the absence of Sir Wm. Harcourt, was left in charge of the leadership of the Op-

position, moved an amendment affirming that it was inexpedient that any portion of the charges of the Indian force, which was being despatched to Africa in aid of Egyptian troops, whether ordinary charges or extraordinary, should be imposed upon the revenues of India. The question they had to consider was not whether the Soudan expedition was good or bad, or whether it was right to employ Indian troops, but whether any portion of the charges should be thrown upon the Government of India. Lord G. Hamilton and her Majesty's Government took a view exactly opposite to that of the Government of India, and the question was which of the two authorities was right. Parliament was the arbiter in the dispute. We were now in an era of African enterprises, when the temptation to employ Indian troops would be very great. Therefore Parliament should be careful in determining the circumstances under which troops should be employed out of India. With regard to the principles enunciated by the Secretary for India in his despatch, he was not inclined to find fault with them, but the question which the House had to decide was whether there was in this case such an Indian interest as would justify a charge upon the Indian revenue. He characterised the argument of Lord G. Hamilton respecting the security of the Suez Canal as one of the most spurious and insincere arguments ever put forward, and he expressed his belief that the canal was in no more danger from the dervishes than the city of London. The glory of England was to be tarnished in order to effect a saving of 35,000*l.*, but he felt sure that many honourable members opposite must be thoroughly ashamed of the transaction.

This amendment, which was cordially received in various parts of the House, was seconded by a rigid Conservative, Mr. J. M. Maclean (*Cardiff Dist.*), who expressed the belief that if the matter were left to the independent judgment of the House, it would find few supporters even on the ministerial side of the House. This view was borne out by the absolute unanimity with which members from that side rose to condemn the course pursued by the Government, their only apologist being Mr. E. Lawrence (*Truro, Cornwall*), a Liberal Unionist, who had been recently elected. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir M. Hicks-Beach, in defending the course taken by the Government was apologetic, and Mr. Balfour was ingenious rather than convincing. Finally, the Ministerialists were able to muster 275 to vote against the amendment, which was supported by 190—among whom were at least a score of Unionists. To obtain this result a great and unnecessary strain was placed upon party allegiance, and the credit if not the position of the Government was weakened by their victory.

The Finance Bill, which had been laid aside for a couple of months, was next brought forward (July 7), and gave rise to four protracted sittings, from which the Opposition not only obtained no substantial advantage, but on several points showed that

its leaders and the independent Radicals held very conflicting views on questions of taxation. Mr. Lloyd-George (*Carnarvon Dist.*) made a fruitless attempt to obtain a reduction of the tea duty from 4*d.* to 2*d.* a pound, but was only able to rally ninety-six supporters. Sir Wm. Harcourt objected to the exemptions from estate duty of objects of national, scientific, or historic interest, but was defeated by 178 to 74 votes. On a later occasion (July 9) Sir Wm. Harcourt supported the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the remission of land tax in excess of 1*s.* in the pound. In an able and interesting speech he showed that there was a great misconception as to the origin and character of the tax. The name itself was inappropriate, for it was never a land tax in the true sense of the word, but a continuation of the subsidies of the Commonwealth. "It was clear," he added, "from the early receipts of the tax that the first charge was upon personalty, and that the residue only fell upon the land." Sir Wm. Harcourt went on to say that the present state of the tax was most absurd and unfair. In 1832 the land tax on personalty had been given up, and in 1876 the land tax on official salaries was surrendered, and although he did not entirely approve of the Government scheme he thought it was not unjust. Ultimately the remission was carried by 258 to 103 votes, and an amendment, moved by Mr. Stuart (*Shoreditch*), extending the period at which the land tax was redeemable from thirty to forty years was rejected, Sir Wm. Harcourt opposing it, by 191 to 76 votes. Many of these points were again raised on the report stage (July 14), the exemption from duty of works of historic interest greatly disturbing the minds of the Radical party, and it was not until the end of the month (July 29) that the bill finally passed.

The Light Railways Bill, which had been reported to the House from the Grand Committee on Trade, was, after an interval, taken up by the House, when most of the points in dispute were again debated and at considerable length. The objections raised against the various provisions of the bill were somewhat conflicting. Some of its opponents wished to enlarge its area and to allow Parish Councils the right to provide money for the construction of these lines, whilst others wished to place restrictions upon the advances to be made even by County Councils. Some again wished to do away altogether with State aid, whilst others wished to see the Treasury subsidies applied in cases where other industries than agriculture might be benefited, and others again desired to limit the advances to 50,000*l.* All these amendments were rejected by majorities of 100 and upwards, and the only change introduced into the bill was the omission of the proviso that no account should be taken of the compulsory purchase of land required for the purposes of the bill, and ultimately the bill passed (July 30) almost in the form in which it had left the Grand Committee.

The interest in the Education Estimates had been exhausted before the vote was reached, but in moving them (July 10) the Vice-President of the Council, Sir John Gorst (*Cambridge University*), had an opportunity of expressing his views upon the question of elementary instruction, on which the expenditure of the year was placed at 7,122,218*l.*, or a further increase of 186,000*l.* on the previous year. His speech was probably the shortest ever delivered on such an occasion, whilst the amount of the vote was the largest on record. He lamented the party spirit in which the defunct Education Bill had been discussed, and foretold that we should never come up to our rivals, France and Germany, in technical and general education unless the subject were debated in a different spirit. A more liberal expenditure on training colleges and teachers was needed, a large percentage of ill-qualified teachers having to be accepted in default of better ones. He explained some of the minor details of the vote and showed how ready the people were to take advantage of any practical training given in board schools.

After the prolonged debate on the Agricultural Land Rating Bill, applicable to England and Wales, it might have been supposed that the Opposition would not do more than place on record their disapproval of the principle when applied to Scotland. The system of rating in that country in many respects differed fundamentally from that in force south of the Tweed, but it was notorious that the pressure of low prices for stock and produce was felt, though in a different degree, in both the Highlands and Lowlands. The Scotch and Irish bills were the logical complement of the English measure, and if the condition of agricultural tenants had not been recognised in Scotland and Ireland there would have been a very natural outcry against the advantages given to the richest partner. The form of the Government measure was "to amend the law with respect to the classification of lands and heritages for purposes of rating in Scotland; for the relief of the auspices of agricultural laws and heritages; for the creation of a fund for the improvement of congested districts in the Highlands and Islands; and for relief from the payment of land tax in the burghs of Scotland." The Lord-Advocate, Sir A. Graham Murray (*Bute-shire*), in introducing the bill (July 3), explained that under the Agricultural Land Rating Bill for England and Wales it was calculated that the sum required would be 1,950,000*l.* per annum, and applying to that figure the well-known proportion of eleven to eighty, there would be available for Scotland a yearly sum of 214,500*l.* After describing the system of rating that prevailed in Scotland, he said the Government had adopted the expedient of applying relief not directly to the rate but to the valuation on which the rate was levied. Thus relief would be given to the agricultural occupiers and to them alone, for the owner's rate would not be touched, and he hoped, therefore, they would hear nothing more about a dole to the landlords. Under

the bill, as presented, 214,500*l.* was intercepted out of the proceeds of the estate duty and was put into the local taxation account, just as in the English bill. It was disposed of in the following manner—7,000*l.* for the abolition of the burgh land tax; 15,000*l.* for the formation of the congested districts' nucleus, and the balance to replace the deficiency in the rates, which would take effect by reducing the valuation of agricultural land to the occupiers to three-eighths.

Sir Geo. Trevelyan (*Bridgeton, Glasgow*), without formally opposing the introduction of the bill, said that a hostile attitude would be assumed at a later stage by those who held that the lion's share of money derived from every taxpayer in Scotland ought not to go in relief of one particular industry.

The Opposition, as represented by the front bench, fully acted up to the spirit of this warning. On the second reading, Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman (*Stirling Burghs*) moved by way of amendment a resolution affirming that the House was of opinion that the money to be allocated to Scotland under this bill ought not to be applied almost exclusively to the benefit of one class only of the people of Scotland. The measure was not the outcome of any spontaneous demand, desire or necessity in Scotland, and the House would never have heard of it but for the corresponding bill relating to agricultural rates in England. He believed that these grants, subsidies, subventions or doles did very little else than mischief in a variety of ways. They demoralised the community, they bred extravagance, they sapped the controlling power of the local authority, and they had this additional vice—there was no finality about them. Agriculture was not suffering more than other interests in Scotland, and, in his opinion, the money granted under the bill would not remain with the tenant, and he warned the Government that the bill would meet with the most stubborn opposition.

This threat was probably intended to hide the misgivings of the framers of the amendment as to its reception by the Scotch members on their own side, who so far had kept their own counsel. The Lord-Advocate, Sir A. Graham Murray, consequently rose at once to accept the challenge thrown down by Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman. He admitted that although the bill would not wholly remove existing injustice, it would at all events do something in the way of giving relief to land which paid more than its fair share of taxation, and which in Scotland, as in England, was suffering from severe depression. He pointed out that the relief of rates in the agricultural industry was by no means a new principle, as it had been recommended by several parliamentary committees since the year 1841. The present bill amounted practically to a compulsory classification between agricultural and non-agricultural land, and it did this at the expense of the imperial taxpayer. After explaining the system of the classification of rates in Scotland, he claimed for the bill that it was perfectly consistent in principle, and that it

differed in one respect from most other bills of its kind because it did not pinch anybody.

The debate, as it proceeded, justified the tactics of the Government. The Scotch Radical members were as much hampered by their constituents as their English colleagues had been during the progress of the bill relating to England and Wales, and both burgh and county members were found disposed to accept the proffered aid. Sir George Trevelyan (*Bridgeton, Glasgow*) and Mr. Bryce (*Aberdeen, S.*) supported their colleagues with considerable vigour of assertion, the former denying that the bill would remove the inequality between realty and personalty, and asserting that a farmer would get five-eighths of his rates paid by the Treasury, while a householder would get nothing. Mr. Bryce objected to the employment of national revenue to the relief of temporal or local distress, and insisted upon an inquiry into the alleged grievances before affording them relief. The case of the Government was summed up by the Solicitor-General, Sir R. B. Finlay (*Inverness Burghs*), who, replying to the hints thrown out that the bill would be withdrawn, declared that the Government intended to pass the bill with the least possible delay, and they were firmly convinced that in doing so they would be carrying out the real wishes of the people of Scotland. The bill did not profess to be a complete cure for the depression from which agriculture in Scotland was admitted to suffer. What the bill did was to remedy one specific injustice in the matter of rating from which agriculture in Scotland was suffering. The objects of the bill were three in number. It proposed, first, to reform taxation and to give some relief to the agricultural interest; secondly, to provide a fund for the relief of congested districts; and, thirdly, to put an end to the land tax in the burghs for a period of five years. A division was then taken, and the amendment was negatived by 276 to 139 votes, and the bill read a second time (July 14) without further debate.

The promise given by the leader of the House on the second reading of the Irish Land Bill that the committee stage should be proceeded with at once had been very feebly kept. The House certainly went into committee (June 12) without delay, and the first clause with regard to the statutory term of judicial rents—fixed at fifteen years—was passed after an attempt to reduce the period to ten years, moved by Mr. Dillon (*Mayo, E.*), had been negatived by 132 to 91 votes, but the second clause, relating to the exclusion of certain holdings from the benefit of the act, led to a protracted discussion, and showed the absolute need of further negotiations between the various Irish groups before any substantial progress was likely to be made with the bill. Five weeks were therefore allowed to elapse before the Irish Land Bill appeared on the first order of the day (July 16), and by this time the negotiations, which had been most unnecessarily protracted, had reached a point which authorised

the Government in pushing forward a measure which, although brought forward in the interests of the tenants, was founded on a spirit of compromise, yet provoked more hostility amongst those whose extreme rights were disregarded than zeal amongst those whose pretensions and demands it only partially recognised. The attempt to arrive at a permanent settlement of the long outstanding quarrel between landlords and tenants was praiseworthy, and the latter, in a way, acknowledged the benefits offered to them. At the same time they made no secret that they expected to get much more, and were only determined in making Mr. Gerald Balfour's first offer the irreducible minimum of their demands. In the interval which had elapsed since the bill was first discussed in committee, negotiations had been actively carried on by the representatives of the landlord party, Mr. Carson, Q.C. (*Dublin University*), and Mr. St. John Brodric (*Guildford, Surrey*). The obvious fact that the landlord party could wreck the bill in the House of Lords was a powerful argument in the mouths of their spokesmen in the Commons; and as the passing of the bill was a matter of far less moment to them than to the tenants, the Chief Secretary thought it more expedient to make such concessions as would ensure the safety of at least some portions of the measure. The landlords maintained that the bill as drafted, instead of being an amendment of the Land Act of 1881, was in reality an extension of its vital principle, and that it was unfair to hold them responsible for the condition of Ireland during the coming winter, because at the fag end of the session they declined to be further despoiled. When the amendments proposed by the Government came to be known, it was seen at once that instead of expediting the progress of the bill, they introduced fresh controversial matters, and that the difficulty of framing clauses respecting the doctrine of "enjoyment," in calculating "compensation," "the inherent capabilities of the land," and the valuation of improvements, had not been overcome. The effect of these amendments on the Irish Nationalists was to bring the Dillonites and Healyites into line with the Parnellites. This would mean that the Government would force through a bill against the wishes of the Irish members. This course would have stultified the whole of Mr. Balfour's policy, and it was therefore with little surprise that the public learnt that an intimation had been conveyed to the Nationalist members that the Government would withdraw their drastic amendments to clause 13 (amendment of procedure for fixing judicial rent and for rehearing) and the clauses consequential thereto. They further intimated that it was not their intention to press their amendments to clause 4 (improvements) unless the representatives of the tenants were willing to accept them. This complete abandonment of the landlords probably increased the chances of the bill in the House of Commons, but it was by no means certain that it would lessen the hostility of the majority

in the Upper House. When this decision was announced (July 15) in the House of Commons, Mr. A. J. Balfour was absent. This, however, did not prevent Sir William Harcourt from taking a course which he apologetically said he had never done before in the absence of the leader of the House. This was to move the adjournment of the House in order to extract from the Government a definite statement as to their intentions with regard to the Irish Land Bill—whether they meant to proceed with it in its present form, and how much time would be devoted to it. Mr. Dillon (*Mayo, E.*) seconded the motion, and urged that Ireland was greatly disturbed over the fate of the bill. The suspicion had grown up among the Nationalists that the Government really meant to drop the bill, or allow it to be destroyed by the Lords at the end of the session. He complained of the great changes which had been made in the bill, and of the constant communications which the Government had held with “the landlord caucus.” All this gave a most dangerous “lead” to the House of Lords. He declared that the bill was a bad bill even at first, and if it were lost now Ulstermen and Nationalists would unite to force the Government to pass an infinitely better one next year. He complained, further, that though the landlords had been consulted by the Government about the bill, the representatives of the tenants had not been.

On behalf of the Government Mr. Chamberlain, who had on more than one occasion in Mr. Balfour’s absence led the House, declined to criticise the conduct of the leader of the Opposition in taking so unusual a course. In Mr. Balfour’s absence it was quite impossible for Mr. Chamberlain to make any general statement as to the course of business; but he denied that work was in a backward state, and predicted that the session would end at the time which had been fixed for its close. He denied that the course taken by the Government had been otherwise than absolutely frank and straightforward from the very first, and he contended that the Government had done much to redeem the pledges which they gave at the general election, one of which, and not the least important, was that the whole of the time of Parliament should not be monopolised by Irish business, but that the “predominant partner” should have a little more of the public time. Nobody pretended that such a measure as an Irish land bill could be introduced in a perfect form, but the Government had persistently tried to bring the parties who were interested in it together, and to secure common ground by mutual concession, and every effort had been made to meet the views of both sides. He defended the changes which the Government originally introduced, as well as the dropping of them when it was found that they were not acceptable to either side. If the Irish party were willing to accept the bill there was no reason why it should not pass, and its fate rested in the hands of Mr. Dillon and his friends, who would be responsible for its loss, if

it were lost. Mr. John Morley (*Montrose Burghs*) wanted to know whether the Government really had any views of their own upon the measure. The changes which had now been made in the bill were introduced, not to please the Nationalists, but to please Mr. T. W. Russell, and the position of the Government had all along been untenable, for while the leader of the House had said that the bill was necessary, or at least desirable, Mr. Chamberlain declared that the Government were quite indifferent to it, and that its fate must rest in the hands of the Irish party. He did not agree in the view taken of the measure by Mr. Dillon, for though he thought the bill fell far short of the needs of the case, he believed it would be a valuable acquisition for the tenants. The debate was continued by Sir Charles Dilke (*Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire*), who urged the Government to drop the bill as there was no chance of passing it this session, and to devote the time it would occupy to other measures which might be carried into law ; and by Colonel Saunderson (*Armagh, N.*), who contended that the Irish landlords had acted fairly and straightforwardly about the land bill, and declared himself in favour of passing the measure.

The practical result of the discussion was to show that the bill did not go so far as Mr. T. W. Russell (*Tyrone, S.*), a member of the Government and the representative of the Ulster farmers, wished ; that the section of the Nationalists headed by Mr. Dillon were anxious to throw cold water upon it, but afraid to oppose it openly ; and that Mr. Healy and his friends, as well as the Parnellites, were ready to do their best to ensure its passing. But while the representatives of the tenants were ready to accept the bill as an instalment of their claims, they at the same time pronounced it to be inadequate. They were anxious not only to incorporate Mr. Morley's bill with that of his successor, but would have, among other things, established the principle of "prairie value." The Dillonites were unwilling to give the Healyites and the Parnellites the chance of taunting them with having lost the bill, whilst the landlords hoped for an improvement of the purchase clauses and a reform of procedure in the law courts. It was therefore decided to proceed with the bill although Mr. A. J. Balfour had said that only four days could be given to the committee stage, and after further negotiations the amended clause 4, dealing with tenants' improvements, was again dropped (July 20) to be brought up again, whilst the clauses relating to procedure (13 to 15) were altogether abandoned. At the next sitting of the House (July 21) Mr. Carson (*Dublin University*), after moving a number of amendments in the interests of the landlords which were resisted by the Government, remarked with some asperity that it was evident that the Government were determined not to give proper consideration to the views of that body, and walked out of the House. On the following day the landlords, by combining with the Nationalists, were able momentarily to defeat the Government on a small point.

Clause 24 provided that the purchase of land under the act should be paid for in money instead of by guaranteed land stock, which stood at 10 per cent. premium. Mr. G. Balfour (*Leeds, C.*) pointed out to the committee that although the premium was then 10 per cent. it might rise to 20 per cent., or it might sink to par, and, further, that it was unadvisable to continue a system by which a vendor of every 100% nominal really received a bonus of 10% from the State. The representatives of the landlords and tenants, however, continued in their attempt to get something additional out of the exchequer, and carried an amendment by 99 to 86 votes, moved by Sir J. Esmonde (*Kerry, W.*), securing that the advances should be in guaranteed land stock as before. Mr. Balfour thereupon withdrew the clause as amended, but reserved his right to consider the matter at a later stage.

From this point the business of the committee proceeded with comparative smoothness, although the debates were protracted to an inordinate length. On the last day (July 23) the debate was enlivened by a brilliant passage of arms between Mr. Carson and his leader, Mr. A. J. Balfour. Necessity or expediency had driven ministers to propose changes bearing a close resemblance to those they resisted when in Opposition. The Irish landlords, with their friends in office, imagined themselves safe from any alteration in the land law which would worsen their position. But after much conference and many times amended amendments they found no trace in the bill of the safeguards which they had been taught to regard as indispensable to prudent legislation on the land question. Mr. Balfour's reply to their protestations was to the effect that such safeguards were incompatible with the passing of the bill, and as a minister responsible for the tranquillity and prosperity of Ireland he found himself unable to indulge in definitions or to assent to limitations which would imperil the bill. Mr. Carson thought fit to discover very different and mean motives for the course of action pursued by the Government. Mr. Balfour, who had been upbraided with carelessness in using his faculty of leadership, was thoroughly aroused by this taunt and in a stately reply indicated the policy of the Government and the purity of their motives.

The report stage, with its new clauses and amendments, occupied another long sitting (July 28), the House not adjourning until 5 A.M. on the following morning. The amendments were chiefly technical or relating to the drafting of the bill, but the Nationalists, led by Mr. Dillon (*Mayo, E.*), made a last effort to shorten the judicial term for the revision of rents from fifteen to ten years. In this they were supported by Mr. Rintoul (*Down, E.*) and Mr. T. W. Russell (*Tyrone, S.*) speaking for the Ulster tenants in favour of the shorter term. The Government, however, declined to shake confidence in a parliamentary settlement by changing it on the very first opportunity,

and the amendment was defeated by 172 to 101 votes, even Colonel Saunderson (*Armagh, N.*) congratulating the Government on standing to its decision. On the following day, however, when the third reading was moved (July 29), Mr. Smith-Barry (*Hunts, S.*), supported by Colonel Saunderson, moved the rejection of the bill on the ground that the Government had given way to the tenants and had rejected the landlords' amendments. Their argument rested chiefly on the abandonment of Mr. G. Balfour's amendments on clauses 4 and 13, which were withdrawn in order to shorten discussion, but which would, if passed, have diminished the cost of proceedings under the act. The debate on the third reading, although not forced to a division, was spirited; the landlords opposing it because it was too much of a tenants' bill, and Mr. Davitt (*Mayo, S.*) opposing it because it was too much of a landlords' bill. Mr. Dillon (*Mayo, E.*) and his followers voted for it, but in their speeches did all they could to run it down, while the Parnellites and Healyites did all in their power to support it. Colonel Saunderson (*Armagh, N.*) said that when he saw Liberal Unionists and Radicals uniting to make light of the property of Irish landlords, he was reminded of Noel's lines:—

Rattle his bones over the stones,
He is only a landlord whom nobody owns.

Mr. Balfour made a very able speech, showing that in substance the bill was the bill they had brought in, and that they had not accepted any large and far-reaching amendments from the Nationalist side of the House; and then Sir William Harcourt made one of his most amusing speeches, rallying the landlords on their profession of surprise that the Conservatives had not stood by them, and asserting that during this century the whole strategy of the Conservatives had consisted in doing, when they themselves were in power, what they had reproached the Liberals for doing when the Liberals were in power. Looking at Mr. Lecky, Sir William Harcourt said: "I see sitting on the benches opposite, with an air, if he will forgive me for saying so, of pensive melancholy, the modern Gibbon who has composed the earlier chapters of the *Decline and Fall of the English Garrison*. He has hitherto observed the transactions of the English Parliament from a distance, and we have all read with interest and instruction his luminous pages. But I look forward with interest to his future chapter on Unionist legislation in Ireland, which I have no doubt he is now revolving in his mind." In the end, Mr. Smith-Barry's amendment to read the bill a third time that day three months was rejected without a division, and the bill was sent up to the Lords and read a first time.

In accordance with a promise made at the beginning of the session, Lord Salisbury laid before Parliament the correspondence which had taken place between the British and the United States Governments on the Venezuelan dispute; and, whilst

deprecating any discussion at that moment, made a short statement (July 17) on the actual position of the negotiations. The correspondence had been carried on with entire friendliness on both sides. It dealt in the first place with the boundary dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela, in which the United States had assumed the attitude of the friend of the latter republic. This was the smaller, but more intricate question, inasmuch as that State claimed two-thirds of British Guiana, including a considerable portion of territory long settled by British subjects. Lord Salisbury held, as he had done all along, that the ownership of the settled territory ought not to be referred to arbitration, but that the unsettled part was clearly a matter for discussion. He did not think when the historical and other facts had been ascertained that there would be much difficulty in adjusting the diplomatic question which would follow, and then would be the time for applying the principle of arbitration. It had been impossible to go faster, because the difficulty of ascertaining the facts had been enormous. At the same time negotiations as to a general system of arbitration between the United States and Great Britain had also been going on, and there had been much discussion on the point. The tendency of the United States Government had been to desire a rapid and summary decision, but her Majesty's Government thought a circumspect and careful method of procedure desirable, considering that the principle of obligatory arbitration was applied for the first time, and was attended by considerable hazards and doubts. They thought some machinery for an appeal or protest should be provided to prevent any miscarriage of justice. There might be speculative claims made by a Government to obtain popularity or to exert pressure, and, though those were points which arbitrators would deal with, it must be remembered that arbitrations sometimes lasted many years. For these reasons her Majesty's Government had exhibited very considerable caution and circumspection in the negotiations. They desired on a non-party question of this gravity that the best intellects on both sides should be applied to the consideration of a matter which concerned the welfare of the human race, and more especially our relations with a great Power with which we desire to remain in close amity.

The correspondence showed that both Lord Salisbury and Mr. Olney sought to advance the cause of arbitration. Mr. Bayard, the American Ambassador in London, in order to remove the Venezuelan boundary question from "an atmosphere of possible controversy," and in order to reach "a well-defined agreement for a basis of negotiation to constitute a tribunal of arbitration," proposed that the negotiations should be carried on at Washington. He also requested "a clear definition of the settlements by individuals in the territories in dispute" which Lord Salisbury desired to exclude from the arbitration. Lord Salisbury at once telegraphed to Sir Julian Pauncefote, the

British Ambassador at Washington, that he had agreed that the boundary question should be discussed at Washington; the United States Government acting as the friend of Venezuela. He added that he was unable to accept "unrestricted arbitration," and proposed as an alternative that a joint commission should ascertain the facts as a basis for subsequent discussion. Subsequently Lord Salisbury took the opportunity to set forth the views of the British Government on the subject of arbitration generally, whilst pointing out that the obstacle hitherto regarded as insurmountable was "the difficulty of deciding how far the undertaking to refer all matters in dispute is to be carried. On both sides it is admitted that some exceptions must be made. Neither Government is willing to accept arbitration upon issues in which the national honour or integrity is involved. But in the wide region that lies within this boundary the United States desired to go farther than Great Britain." Lord Salisbury's reason for taking this more limited view was that it would be wiser in the interests of the idea to make a modest beginning rather than "hazard the success of the principle by adventuring it upon doubtful ground." With this view Lord Salisbury drew up the heads of a proposed treaty, at the same time confessing that his plan would seem "unsatisfying and imperfect" to the warmer advocates of arbitration, but believing that it offered the opportunity of making a substantial advance towards the idea of arbitration in its most developed form.

Mr. Olney in reply stated that "these proposals are welcomed by the President with the keenest appreciation of their value. So far as they manifest a desire that the two great English peoples of the world shall remain in perpetual peace, he fully reciprocates that desire on behalf of the Government and people of the United States." The precautions with which Lord Salisbury wished to fence round the proposed machinery of arbitration Mr. Olney thought excessive, and urged that "to insist upon an arbitration so constructed that miscarriages of justice can never occur is to insist upon the unattainable, and is equivalent to a relinquishment altogether of the effort in behalf of a general system of international arbitration." In conclusion, he suggested that the Venezuelan boundary dispute offered good opportunity for one of those "tentative experiments in arbitration" which, in Lord Salisbury's view, would be of decided advantage. In response, Lord Salisbury proposed that a commission of two British subjects and two American citizens should ascertain the facts involved in the Dutch and Spanish rights at the time of the cession of Guiana, the Governments of Great Britain and Venezuela to be bound by the findings of the majority of the commission, and to agree to a boundary line on the basis of the report, provided that Venezuela should not be accorded territory in *bonâ fide* occupation of British subjects on 1st January, 1887, and *vice versa*. Mr. Olney declined

this solution summarily, and proposed as an amendment that the commission should report on all facts relevant to the boundary question, while the arbitral tribunal should be only so far limited that "in fixing such line, if territory of one party be found in the occupation of the subjects or citizens of the other party, such weight and effect shall be given to such occupation as reason, justice, the rules of international law, and the equities of the particular case may appear to require." Here the correspondence was temporarily suspended.

Outside Parliament, as usual at this season of the year, there had been comparatively few speeches and fewer demonstrations, although the failure of the Ministry with their most important bill gave a fair excuse for exultation among its opponents. At a meeting of the North London Radical Associations held at Holloway (July 6) Sir Wm. Harcourt was the chief speaker. He cheered the spirits of his audience by the assurance that great majorities had a knack of tumbling to pieces, and the bigger they were the heavier the fall. The catastrophe had come sooner than he had expected and was more complete than he could have hoped. To help the voluntary schools would have been a simple thing to do, but ministers set to work to revolutionise the established educational system of the country and set fire to the petroleum barrel of the religious question. Sir W. Harcourt proceeded to stigmatise the Agricultural Rating Bill as "an impudent act of spoliation of one class for the benefit of another." The rates were not to be remitted to the clergy, and consequently there was a clerical insurrection against the Government. The accommodation bills of the Government were now falling due, and on the first and principal of their obligations they had made a declaration of insolvency. If with their slender forces the Opposition in any degree contributed to the bursting of the bubble, it was because they had relied on the principles of equal justice, political, religious, and financial, to all classes alike.

Sir Wm. Harcourt's direct attack was supported by incessant rumours, sedulously circulated by the Liberal papers, of disagreements in the Cabinet, and of an ever-widening breach between the Conservatives and their Unionist allies. Public opinion was so dependent upon its guides in the press that a distinct declaration from the Conservative leaders was regarded as the best answer to these groundless suggestions. The Home Secretary, Sir M. White Ridley, therefore took advantage of a meeting of the National Union of Conservative Associations (July 15), when the Duke of Norfolk occupied the chair, to speak emphatically on the solidity of the Unionist alliance. There were rumours of divisions in the Cabinet, but he assured them that ministers were absolutely united in the policy they wished to pursue. Whatever views they might hold on Disestablishment, they were most emphatically returned to Parliament to declare that the proper way to Christianise this country was not by robbing the

Church of her ancient endowments. After alluding to the peculiar difficulties, not of their own making, with which the Government had been confronted, and to the unexampled obstruction offered them, he concluded by saying that, though he deprecated the use of extreme measures in forcing bills through Parliament, he thought that no Government ought to allow intended and definite obstruction to stop legislation, which was evidently the desire of the House of Commons.

Mr. A. J. Balfour a day or two later, at the United Club (July 17), dealt more especially with Sir Wm. Harcourt's taunts, and vindicated his course of action. Nothing in his parliamentary career, he said, had caused him individually more pain than the withdrawal of the Education Bill. He admitted that in their desire to bring in a generous scheme ministers had imperilled the part of that scheme on which their hearts were specially set; but, recognising their error in this respect, they would, at the earliest opportunity, bring in a bill giving relief to voluntary schools. Some of the difficulties of the Government arose from the want of an Opposition in the higher sense of the word, in place of a small minority that employed parliamentary devices for preventing Unionist legislation from coming into effect. The existing rules of procedure made it necessary to deal with legislative problems in short bills, and he was unable to conceive a situation under which in future it would be possible for any Government to bring in a long and contentious measure with the hope of passing it in one session.

Underlying Mr. Balfour's defence of the Ministry there was a more personal matter. For some time he had been attacked by his opponents, criticised by his friends, scolded by the party press, and but feebly supported by his followers. He was accused of not showing due attention to business by his constant presence in the House, which other leaders had displayed, and was told that the want of discipline in his army was due to his want of masterfulness and watchfulness. No leader of the House probably enjoyed so much personal popularity with all parties as Mr. Balfour, and the very sensible decline of his authority during the session was a matter of real regret to all reasonable men. In the matter of the Education Bill, it was admitted that he had committed a grievous error in accepting Sir A. Rollit's amendment; but the real cause of its defeat was the want of discipline shown by the Conservative members. Each had some special aim of his own or of his constituents which he considered as far more important than his leader's; and each thought himself justified in caballing openly against his leader if by so doing he could force forward his particular point. The usual result ensued: a body of self-willed followers, finding themselves incapable of carrying out their own policy, at once declared that they were badly led, and declined to see that discipline and loyalty among the rank and file were necessary to ensure the leader's success. It was therefore highly satisfactory

to find both Mr. Chamberlain and the Chancellor of the Exchequer giving eloquent expression (July 22) to their loyal admiration of Mr. Balfour. Mr. Chamberlain, in addressing the Cordwainers' Company, took occasion to say that nothing could be more ungenerous "than to blame the present leader of the House of Commons as though he were responsible for the faults of a system" which rendered the process of legislation so very arduous, and the temper of the Lower House so highly resisting a medium. "No party," he said, "could desire, or could have, a leader more skilful in debate, more courageous in action, more loyal to his colleagues, more courteous to his opponents, more mindful of the high and honourable traditions of the House of Commons." And on the same evening, speaking to the Bristol (West) Conservative Association, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach delivered himself of similar testimony, ridiculing the legend that Mr. Goschen, Mr. Chamberlain, and himself were all burning with eagerness to secure the succession to Mr. Balfour if any event should cause his retirement, and declaring that "by his abilities, by his eloquence, by his remarkable debating power, by his courage under all circumstances, but perhaps most of all by that magnetic charm of manner and of character which conciliated his opponents and endeared him to his friends, Mr. Balfour was of all men most qualified to lead the House of Commons." These were testimonies which blew to atoms the ridiculous rumours of jealousies in the Cabinet, and showed that Mr. Balfour was probably the most effective link in the chain which bound together the Conservatives and the Liberal Unionists.

On the numerous occasions when the state of public business had been discussed in the House of Commons there was one point on which Mr. Balfour had shown a consistency which had been regarded as little less than fatuous. Through all the troubles of the session, and in face of the varied devices of the Opposition, he had held to his assurance, given within a week of its opening, that members should be released from Westminster by the middle of August. When, therefore, the very end of July was reached before the Irish Land Bill left the Commons, it was not believed that Mr. Balfour's calculations would be upset by the action of the majority in the House of Lords, where the Ministerialists reigned supreme. So far as could be gathered, the Government itself anticipated no serious opposition to its measure, although the landlords would doubtless protest against its principles and its omissions. The course of the debate on the second reading must therefore have come as an unwelcome surprise, whilst the proceedings in committee seemed at one time to threaten the very existence of the bill. Lord Cadogan, who had usually conducted the Irish business of the Government in the Upper House, being now Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, it was considered more appropriate that another member of the Government should take charge of the

bill. Lord Lansdowne, an Irish landowner, as well as Secretary for War, was therefore chosen to move the second reading (July 31), describing himself as acting the part of the tame elephant employed to entice the wild elephants into the corral. He began by contrasting Mr. John Morley's bill with Mr. Gerald Balfour's, the latter being far more advantageous to the landlord. It did not shorten the statutory term, nor take away the landlord's right of pre-emption in the case of a *bonâ-fide* sale, whilst it left him the right of ejectment for two years of arrears and an ordinary creditor for arrears beyond that limit, instead of wiping out the debt altogether. In dealing with the question of improvements, the bill laid down a time limit beyond which the presumption in favour of the tenant was not operative. Lord Lansdowne then expounded the proposals of the bill with respect to purchase and to the extricating of the derelict estates, the rental of which was now paid to the Court of Chancery. He did not deny that the proposals on this subject might be open to objections, but these could not be so serious as the objections to the present condition of those estates.

Lord Londonderry, who had been Viceroy of Ireland and was also a large landowner in that country, speaking on behalf of the Irish landlords, led the attack upon the Government bill, premising by the statement that considering a bill to be necessary to remedy the imperfections of the Land Act of 1881 they would not oppose the second reading. He thought, however, that the Government might have proposed a measure which would have given satisfaction to at least some section of the community. He condemned the action of the Chief Secretary in suddenly withdrawing a series of reasonable amendments which he had intended to propose in the other House, and he also held that it was a grave error of judgment to bring forward a bill of such great magnitude and difficulty at the fag end of a busy session. He further complained that the Government had never consulted Irishmen who were practically conversant with the working of the Irish land system. He contended that agricultural depression had not been so keenly felt in Ireland as in England, as was proved by the high prices given for the tenant-right, and he asked on what just principle the sub-commissioners were to be allowed to take further large slices from the much-attenuated property left to the unfortunate Irish landlords. It would be a sad day for Ireland when they expatriated the landlords by reducing them to poverty, and their ruin would entirely destroy that confidence without which prosperity was impossible in any country. The bill as it stood contained provisions which would be injurious to all classes in Ireland, and he appealed to the House to convert it into a fair, simple and useful measure.

From Lord Crewe, who had been the Viceroy under the late Liberal Government, the bill received a certain support, for it

would not in his opinion interfere seriously with the interests of the Irish landlords ; and Lords Dunraven and Monteagle were, with certain reservations, favourable to the bill.

Lord Castletown urged that the bill was very badly drafted and replete with legal pitfalls. What really was wanted in Ireland was finality in land legislation, and he thought they might have fairly expected a Government backed by so large a majority as the present Ministry was to introduce and pass a workable and final measure.

The Duke of Abercorn regretted that the Government had not brought in a short and simple bill, improving procedure and facilitating purchase by the tenants on fair terms. Instead of doing that they had introduced a measure which seriously encroached on the rights of property, although they had been largely returned to power in order to protect those rights. The leaders of their party had shown themselves ready to cast aside true principles of policy for the sake of temporary expediency.

Lord Spencer commented on the "lovers' quarrel," of which peers on his side were now spectators, and he thought the Irish landlords had a real grievance against the Government for first accepting and then throwing over their amendments, and also for the way in which the bill had been forced through the other House. In his opinion the proposals of the late Government were better than those of their successors, but both political parties were agreed in the necessity of dealing with that question, and he urged his hearers not to take on themselves the grave responsibility of risking the loss of a measure which would go one step farther towards settling a great and long-standing controversy.

The Lord-Chancellor of Ireland (Lord Ashbourne) defended the bill as being an honest, just and temperate endeavour to remove difficulties and smooth the working of the existing land system, and he believed that on careful examination it would be found not to merit the severe strictures that had been passed upon it. The Government had been blamed for not consulting the representatives of the landowners in framing its provisions ; but they had been in full possession of the views of that class and also of the representatives of the tenants, and their object had been to bring in a measure that would be fair to both parties.

Lord Templetown, following the lead of Lord Midleton, said that the bill had created not only consternation, but indignation, in Ireland, and had welded all those who were interested in property of any kind into a solid whole against the Government, who had treated some of their most loyal supporters with but scant courtesy and consideration.

Lords Belmore and Clonbrock spoke in a similar strain, but trusted that the Government would listen favourably to amendments in committee. The bill was then read a second time without a division.

It was plain from many speeches made against the bill by peers of unimpeachable loyalty to the Unionist Government, many of whom could have no interested motives, that the much-desired peace with Ireland was being patched up at somebody's expense. In the short interval between the second reading and the committee this feeling gathered increased strength, and the situation was further aggravated by the proposal to re-insert those amendments of which the Government had given notice after the second reading in the Commons, but had withdrawn in committee. When, therefore, the Lords met (Aug. 6) to consider the measure in detail, a prolonged debate, lasting over three sittings, ensued, in the course of which the Government suffered defeat upon three occasions and were forced to give way on several points—more or less important—to the objections raised. Lord Templetown carried by 125 votes to 67 (majority, 58) an amendment of no great importance, requiring the Land Court to record, in the form of a schedule, a number of details concerning the land on which they were fixing the fair rent. Lord Cloncurry carried by 107 votes to 60 (majority, 47) an amendment restoring the limit of 50% ratable value, instead of the new limit of 100% fixed by the bill, for pastoral holdings, beyond which the benefits of the act should not apply. Lord Lansdowne and the Duke of Devonshire in very weighty speeches resisted this amendment. Finally, Lord Macnaghten carried by 96 votes to 77 (a majority of only 19) the omission of clause 5 dealing with town parks, which provided that in the ninth section of the bill the term "agricultural" should be construed to mean either agricultural or pastoral, or partly agricultural and partly pastoral. Lord Lansdowne, supported by Lord Herschell, defended the clause, but it was rejected by the narrow majority named. On the turbary clause, Lord Lansdowne proposed a compromise. It provided that when the tenant had enjoyed the privilege of cutting turf, and the landlord proposed to withdraw that privilege so as to diminish the value of the holding, he should be required to say whether he would continue or withdraw it, and if he withdrew it the court might take that into account in considering the revision of the rent, and in this form the clause was agreed to. Subsequently Lord Macnaghten carried by 15 (61 to 46) a clause giving to any person who thought himself aggrieved by an order of the land judge the right to apply to the Court of Appeal for a rehearing.

The report stage and third reading were by consent taken on the same day (Aug. 10), Lord Spencer and Lord Dunraven speaking with regret of the amendments carried in that House, and Lord Londonderry defending them, though at the same time deprecating the notion that they had been intended to wreck the bill.

This revolt of the Lords against their own leaders was variously criticised. It proved at least that even under a Con-

servative Ministry they were not disposed, when their material interests were concerned, to consent to act as a mere chamber of registration. They clung to their constitutional rights of making measures in accordance with their taste or judgment; and possibly, if they had gone a step farther backward in political history, they might have joined hands with a majority in the House of Commons and forced the Ministry to abandon the measure at the last moment, or to accept the alterations which the landlord and Conservative interests demanded. Happily no such attempt was made. Mr. Gerald Balfour's skilful piloting of the bill through the Commons had given him the right to appeal to the more liberal of his supporters, who recognised that any Irish Land Bill must contain provisions in favour of the tenants. When, therefore, the bill came back from the Lords (Aug. 12) the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Mr. G. Balfour, explained the situation which had been created by the amendments which the Peers had made to the bill, and showed that only a few points of difference were left between the two Houses, none of them at all serious. The Government were willing, and he trusted the House would be equally willing, to accept, with slight alterations, the Lords' amendments providing an appeal against rates in the Landed Estates Court, and dealing with the tenant's right of occupation, but they could not accept the amendment reducing the limit of value of grazing farms excluded from the bill from 100*l.* to 50*l.*, nor could they assent to the omission of the "town parks" clause, but they would be willing so to amend that clause as to provide that town park holdings should only come under the bill when they were used as *bonâ-fide* farms, and not for any other purpose. He hoped that both Houses would accept the views at which the Government had arrived, and thus prevent so great a calamity to Ireland as would be caused by the dropping of the bill. The various amendments made by the Lords were then discussed at considerable length, but in a thoroughly amicable spirit. On the question of the tenant's occupation right some little difficulty arose through the accidental passing of an amendment to the Lords' amendment at a moment when the House was all but empty; but this difficulty was got over by negating the Lords' amendment altogether, and leaving the point, which was not of a very vital character, open for further consideration by the Peers. On the points as to appeals and as to tenants' improvements, the Lords' amendments were accepted with slight alterations, but on the question as to the 100*l.* limit instead of 50*l.*, the Lords' amendment was rejected by 176 votes against 24. The clause relating to town parks, which had been omitted by the Lords, was reinserted, but a proviso was added in the sense which had been explained by Mr. Gerald Balfour when the discussion began. Finally, after a number of minor points had been disposed of without making any serious changes in the measure, the bill was left to go back to the Lords with the fresh

amendments inserted, and a committee was appointed to draw up reasons for such disagreement with the Peers as had been made.

There was thus once more an opportunity given to the more stubborn peers to reconsider their position, and to surrender their opinions in deference to the majority of the Commons. The Marquess of Lansdowne explained the situation in much the same spirit as a similar task had been performed in the Commons on the previous day by Mr. Gerald Balfour. He contended that the Lower Chamber had in this latest development of business conceded much, and he urged that on the one or two remaining points their lordships should give way and allow the bill to pass. The Duke of Abercorn defended the action taken by the landlords, but hoped the bill would pass and be a settlement of the question for many years to come; but the Marquess of Londonderry made a somewhat indignant and aggressive speech, in which he expressed a hope that, at all events, their lordships would reject the Commons' amendment relating to town parks, and he sought to prove that the Commons had made no concessions whatever. The Commons' amendments were then dealt with in detail, and all of them agreed to. A fight took place on the town parks question, Lord Macnaghten and the Irish landlords endeavouring to carry a provision that a town park should only come under the operation of the bill, not when it was used as a *bonâ-fide* farm, but when the man who held it was a *bonâ-fide* farmer; but this was rejected amid some excitement—the opposing forces being so close in numbers—by 74 votes against 68, and the bill at length passed through the dangers which had more than once threatened its existence. By firmness as much as by tact the Government had set aside those amendments which interfered with the main purpose of the measure, whilst those which provided the application of additional securities or merely stated principles in different language were accepted, and on the last day of the session the bill became law.

Whilst the Irish Land Bill and its perils had occupied the attention of politicians, public interest had been more keenly aroused by the trial of Dr. Jameson and his comrades and the subsequent action of the Government. The case had been tried (July 20-28) at bar by the Lord Chief Justice (Lord Russell), Baron Pollock, and Mr. Justice Hawkins, with a special jury, and had lasted nearly ten days. At the outset the counsel for the prisoners took objection to the first count of the indictment, which was that they had fitted out a warlike expedition against a friendly state in breach of the Foreign Enlistment Act, on the ground *inter alia* that the act had never been "proclaimed" in the colony. This point having been duly argued and set aside, the regular trial proceeded, the prisoners pleading not guilty. There was throughout the trial evidence that the popular sympathy with Dr. Jameson and his confederates had

not abated, although amongst the more thoughtful portion of the community a feeling prevailed that however unselfish Dr. Jameson's motives may have been his action showed a recklessness of results which, considering his responsible position in British Central Africa, was altogether blameworthy. The summing up of the Lord Chief Justice gave a complete analysis of the case for the prosecution and for the defence. The accused, said Lord Russell, were to have the benefit of any doubt that might exist, but it must be a real doubt such as would influence a man in any important concern in life, and not a doubt conjured up. To constitute an offence of the kind with which the prisoners were charged, it was not necessary that the military expedition fitted out to proceed against the dominions of a friendly power should actually proceed. "The offence is complete if the person aids and abets the preparation with that intention." The Lord Chief Justice went on to show that, in fact, the expedition started from British territory, and to summarise the evidence as to the facts of the raid. Ultimately he left to the jury a series of questions which were briefly: (1) Were preparations for a raid made by the defendants? (2) Did they aid, abet, counsel, or procure such preparation? (3) Were they employed in the actual expedition? (4) Did the Queen exercise dominion and sovereignty in Pitsani-Pitlogo?

The jury, after an hour's deliberation, returned affirmative answers to all the questions put to them. This the Lord Chief Justice held to constitute a verdict of "Guilty." At first, however, the jury failed to base a unanimous verdict of "Guilty" on these findings. In the end, nevertheless, the dissentient jurymen were made to see that such a verdict was only the logical outcome of the questions to which he had answered "Yes," and the verdict of "Guilty" was given with a rider that the state of things in Johannesburg presented great provocation. At first counsel for the prisoners expressed their intention to make a motion for arrest of judgment, but after consultation with their clients such action was abandoned, and sentence was pronounced by the Lord Chief Justice. Dr. Jameson was sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment, Sir John Willoughby to ten months' imprisonment, Major Robert White to seven months' imprisonment, Colonel Grey, Colonel Henry White, and Major Coventry to five months' imprisonment, all without hard labour.

These sentences were naturally canvassed by all parties. Whilst some thought them too lenient, others declared them to be unnecessarily severe. On the whole, however, they were regarded as adequate, with the hope that by some means they would be reduced or lightened; and steps were at once taken by some enthusiasts to obtain their relaxation or remission. The Home Office, which at first had regarded the prisoners as **second-class misdemeanants**, subject to the rules and discipline

of ordinary prison life, was at length induced by appeals from various quarters, irrespective of politics, to treat them as first-class misdemeanants, and to transfer them to Holloway Prison, where they were allowed many privileges of food and lodging, but in other respects were treated as ordinary prisoners. Dr. Jameson had from the first declined to allow his friends to ask for special privileges in his case, and had announced his wish to pay in full the penalty he had incurred.

The conclusion of the trial gave the Government the opportunity of carrying out their long-announced promise of an inquiry into the events in South Africa culminating in the Jameson raid. The preference of the Government had been for a royal commission, in which the judicial element would predominate, but Sir Wm. Harcourt in more than one public speech had pronounced in favour of a Select Committee of the House of Commons, and this view, although supported by questionable argument, was adopted. The Ministry were not a little censured by their supporters in the press for not standing by their own opinions and accepting the responsibility belonging to their position. The chief objection to an inquiry by a Select Committee was the inevitable delay consequent upon the parliamentary recess, and the probability that the information it elicited would be useless when obtained. The other alternative urged upon the Government was to revoke immediately the charter of the existing South Africa Company. The directors of that corporation had shown themselves—if acquainted with the intentions of Dr. Jameson—endowed with very loose ideas of international morality; or if they were not aware of what was going on, they had proved themselves wholly incompetent to control their own agents. The fear lest Rhodesia should, if converted into a Crown colony, become a heavy burden on the Imperial Exchequer seemed to have decided the Ministry to postpone, if they were unable to avoid, this responsibility. The agreement, however, between the two front benches practically prevented any discussion of the respective merits of the alternative plans. Mr. Chamberlain in moving (July 30) for a Select Committee to inquire into the recent events in South Africa began almost by accepting an amendment put down by Sir Wm. Harcourt, who wished the raid itself to be also inquired into. Mr. Chamberlain stated that the Government had no other desire than that the inquiry should be full and complete; and therefore the terms of reference would be as wide as possible. It was proposed that the committee should consist of thirteen or at most fifteen members, and he added that the inquiry would also deal with the circumstances which had led to the rebellion in Matabeleland and Rhodesia. Parties interested might appear by counsel; but the question whether evidence should be taken on oath was left to the committee itself to determine. After a few words from Sir Wm. Harcourt, the Government proposal was agreed

to; but the most immediate result was the persistent circulation of rumours outside Parliament that the committee would not be appointed before the session closed, and that before the House met again all interest in the matter would have ceased. The Irish members, it must be admitted, did their best to carry these rumours into effect, for when the nomination was called (Aug. 11) Mr. Healy (*Louth, N.*) moved that the number should be seventeen instead of fifteen, because the Irish had only one member, owing to the action of Mr. Dillon (*Mayo, E.*), who let one of their members be claimed by the Opposition—evidence of the latter's subserviency, said Mr. Healy, to the Liberal party. Ultimately all the names agreed on were carried, though not without divisions being taken over the names of Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Sydney Buxton, and Mr. Wharton. The committee held one formal meeting before the dissolution, at which Mr. Jackson (*Leeds, N.*) was elected chairman, and a report presented stating that the inquiry was not completed.

The remaining business of the session was despatched with far less friction or delay than had been prophesied by the opponents of the Government; and Mr. Balfour's "guillotine," although exercised on the last day (Aug. 10) of Supply, excluded the discussion of several votes, yet the amount of money voted under this restriction was barely a tithe of what had frequently been hurried through the committee under the old system. The votes reserved for the last day, in fact, were those on which no member desired to provoke debate or needed further information. The successful working of Mr. Balfour's new rules indeed went a long way to compensate for the abandonment of the unlucky Education Bill.

In the House of Lords, in the committee stage of the Light Railways Bill (Aug. 10), an attempt was made by Lord Welby to give local authorities who objected to a scheme sanctioned by the Board of Trade the right to appeal to Parliament. The choice of Lord Welby, who had been a Treasury official for upwards of forty years, to move to restrict the powers of a public department was at least singular, but the former Financial Secretary of the Treasury had become a member of the London County Council, which was not disposed to allow its views to be controlled by the Board of Trade. The Government, however, stood firm, and Lord Salisbury ridiculed the idea that the London County Council should "throw its formidable shadow over the bill," and pointed out that the bill was intended primarily to affect the interests of those parts of the country which were most remote from London. If the bill were to do any good, the expense of carrying it out should be kept down to the lowest limit, or light railways would not be made. This view was upheld by the majority, and Lord Welby's amendment, although warmly supported by Lord Rosebery, was negatived by 79 to 31 votes, and the bill passed through committee.

In the Commons, the committee stage of the Scotch Agri-

cultural Rates Relief Bill was protracted in a wearisome manner by a small knot of Scotch members, who found but little support amongst their own countrymen; and the numerous amendments, which had no uniform aim, were rejected in a thin house by majorities varying from 70 to 100. A portion of the sum allotted to Scotland was destined by the bill for the improvement of congested districts, and on this point Mr. Balfour explained (Aug. 5) that out of 15,000*l.* set apart for this purpose, the Government had in mind the migration of labourers as well as the development of existing industries. After a renewal of dilatory tactics on the report stage (Aug. 6), the bill was read a third time, and agreed to by the Lords without amendment.

Stronger opposition was raised in committee to the West Highland Railway Guarantee Bill, which had passed its second reading (June 30) by an overwhelming majority—235 to 67 votes. The main object of the bill was to guarantee an interest of 3 per cent. on the capital of the company for thirty years, on the ground that the line passing through sparsely inhabited districts would not for a long time become self-supporting, but that its benefit to the fishing and farming industries on the coast would be immediate. This view was generally endorsed by the House, although some few austere political economists held firmly against the policy of State help to industrial undertakings.

On the report stage of Supply Sir C. Dilke (*Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire*) raised an interesting discussion on our retention of the island of Cyprus, which, in view of its financial position, he regarded as indefensible. In reply, Mr. Chamberlain assumed that Sir C. Dilke by asking the House to divide against this vote desired to commit the House to the opinion that we ought to hand Cyprus back to Turkey. The truth was that this island of Cyprus, which had been so badly treated, was 500,000*l.* better off than it would have been but for the British occupation. That was the pecuniary result alone, and the half-million had been taken out of the pockets of the taxpayers of this country. If the island had continued under the rule of Turkey the whole of this amount would have been extracted from the inhabitants. He had endeavoured to secure a larger amount than was formerly granted for the current expenses of the island, and he had also sought to ascertain whether something could be done to develop its resources either by improved communications or by a system of irrigation. An engineer well acquainted with irrigation in India had been sent out, and his report would be carefully considered at the Colonial Office. He trusted that they would be able to establish a weekly mail service between Cyprus and Egypt, and that by private enterprise or in some other way railways would be made in the island. In the first place, however, the duty of the Government was to repair the roads and bridges, and the additional sum which was now being granted in aid of public works would be mainly applied to this purpose.

The resolution was then carried on a division by 142 against 38 votes.

The second reading of the Appropriation Bill (Aug. 12) also gave rise to a debate in which our interests in the Mediterranean were freely discussed, and Lord Salisbury's policy towards the Cretan Christian population severely criticised. The Under-Secretary, Mr. Curzon, replying on behalf of his chief, was able to show that Lord Salisbury's distinct refusal to associate himself with Russia and the other Powers ready to follow her lead had practically broken up the "European concert," which proposed to blockade the coasts of Crete, and thus to practically hand over the Christian population to be massacred and pillaged by the Turkish troops. Mr. Curzon gave, moreover, some indication of the policy which Lord Salisbury proposed to pursue during the recess. A Christian governor had been appointed and the Assembly had been convened. As regards the suspension of hostilities, although there might have been lamentable exceptions in particular cases, yet in the principal towns and in places where large bodies of troops were assembled there had been an honest desire on the part of the Turkish troops and their commanders to observe the conditions imposed. As to the Halepa pact, that convention was being made the basis of the negotiations between the two parties. There were two main difficulties by which the policy of the Powers had been confronted. The first was the unremitting importation of arms, ammunition, and volunteers into the island. Representations of a friendly character had been addressed to the Greek Government on the subject, but public opinion in Greece was strongly excited, and the Greek Government might not have the means to guard a very long and indented line of coast. The action of the Powers had also been hampered by the outbreak of religious animosities in the island. He could not attempt to divide the responsibility in this matter, but at all events it was not fair to say that in all cases the Christians had been the victims. With regard to the proposed blockade of Crete, her Majesty's Government felt that they would not be holding the scales evenly if they gave the Sultan the assistance of the British fleet while no guarantees were given for the better government of the island for the future. Lord Salisbury was willing to join in any guarantee with the other Powers for the observance of arrangements arrived at between the Turkish Government and the Cretan population, but had felt himself unable to agree to any arrangement by which her Majesty's Government should join in the application of force. He had no doubt that the annexation of Crete to Greece would be unacceptable to all the great Powers, for something more permanent than the existing state of things was required, and some lasting readjustment of the government of Crete was desirable. But we could not in a short time solve a problem which had been growing up for generations. In this matter self-restraint and

patience were required, and her Majesty's Government would address themselves to the solution of the problem in that spirit.

Sir H. Fowler entered his protest against this absolutely neutral policy, which appeared to him to be a policy of direct sympathy with Turkey. This, however, was warmly denied by Mr. Balfour. The desire of the Government, in the interest of Crete, in the interest of Europe, and in the interest of Turkey herself, was to get good government in the island; and no pains would be spared to attain that object. But her Majesty's Government also had constantly present to their minds the grave responsibility which lay upon them to maintain with other Powers the peace of Europe.

The only remaining matter brought before Parliament was the discussion of the Indian Budget, which politicians in Opposition invariably declared to be one of paramount importance—and when in office as invariably delayed it until nearly every one had left London. This year Lord Geo. Hamilton's statement was postponed to the very eve of the prorogation (Aug. 13), but nevertheless a few reformers mustered to give vent to their grievance. The Indian Budget, dealing as it did with the accounts of three separate years, must of necessity be somewhat involved and highly unintelligible to those unversed in the ways of Indian finance. In theory, perhaps, the House of Commons might have some voice in the management of Indian finances; but the function of the House, as recognised, was merely to receive a statement of what had been decided by the Viceroy and his council. On the present occasion, the Secretary for India began by stating that the accounts of 1894-5, which it had been estimated would show a deficit of Rx.301,900, had actually closed with a surplus of Rx.693,100. The revised estimates for 1895-6 had shown the fallacy of those originally framed. The expedition to Chitral had entailed a charge of 160 lacs of rupees; the Famine Insurance Fund had been increased by 23 lacs; the revision of the cotton duties had caused a loss of 26 lacs, and 40 lacs had been repaid to provincial governments in excess of the original estimates. Altogether, the expenditure for 1895-6 had been Rx.2,840,000 more than had been anticipated when the Budget was framed. Nevertheless it was still expected that when the accounts had been fully made a considerable surplus would be realised on the year. Coming at last to the Budget of 1896-7, Lord Geo. Hamilton explained that the Indian Government had decided to raise the Famine Insurance Fund to Rx.1,000,000, entailing an extra charge of Rx.473,800 on the revenue of the year over and above the Budget Estimate of the previous year. The Indian Government had likewise come to an important decision in reference to the Army. They had provided for a reserve depôt of camels and they had allowed for an additional reserve of 1,000 horses. After taking into consideration various other improvements and fallings-off in the revenue, and deducting an increase in expenditure almost

entirely due to the very low estimate taken on account of the railway revenue, they got an estimated surplus of Rx.463,000 for the present year. This improvement in Indian finance had greatly increased the borrowing power of the Indian Government. A falling-off of one-tenth of a penny in the value of the rupee caused a loss of 22 lacs, or, in other words, a fall in exchange of a penny meant a loss in the revenue of the year of 220 lacs of rupees. The experiment of closing the mints for the purpose of improving exchange was an artificial makeshift, but at the same time it had succeeded in doing that which its promoters had anticipated—*viz.*, it had caused a divergence between the change value of the rupee and the price of silver, but although it had done that, still the market price of silver was the dominant factor in the change value of the rupee. During the past year they had been able to make a substantial improvement in the means of railway communication by encouraging the construction of branch or feeder lines. They had also come to a definite conclusion to give a direct guarantee to those lines. The second matter which he had looked into was the amount of capital applicable to main lines, and he thought they might legitimately and largely increase the amount devoted to the purpose. The third change which was about to be made was that there should be an annual conference in India of the chief railway officers, presided over by the Viceroy, in order that they might thoroughly consider the proposals brought before them. It was very desirable that railway enterprise should be largely developed in Burmah, and the Government had recently entered into an arrangement with the Burmese Company by which they had undertaken to work the lines. This country practically monopolised the imports of railway material into India, but he thought this was rather due to the fact that the policy of the Government was to give some preference to home production. But when they came to steel and iron in bulk, there was a remarkable shrinkage in British imports into India. Twelve years ago we had 97 per cent. of the total imports of iron and steel into India, but according to the last return our percentage had shrunk to 56 per cent., while Belgium had risen during this year from $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to 39 per cent.

Sir W. Wedderburn (*Banffshire*), who had for many years been a Government official in India, moved an amendment in favour of the appointment of a select committee to examine into and report annually on the East Indian accounts, after the manner in which the imperial accounts were examined by the Public Accounts Committee. This proposal was supported by a few unofficial members, but was opposed on the ground that the responsibility of the Viceroy's government would be thereby weakened, and that the control was already efficient. After some discussion Sir W. Wedderburn's resolution was negatived by 110 to 30 votes, and the work of the session came to an end.

The following day (Aug. 14) was devoted to the formal business of passing various measures through their final stages, an operation which was effected by both Houses meeting at unusual hours. At length at six o'clock the Commons were summoned to hear the Queen's Speech, which was of greater length than usual, dealing with the Nile expedition, the state of affairs in Turkey, Crete, and South Africa, and summing up in the following paragraph the chief legislative enactments of the session: "I have given my consent, with much pleasure, to measures for completing the naval defences of my empire, for lightening the fiscal burdens which press upon the agricultural population, and for protecting the flocks and herds of these islands from the importation of disease. Important measures have also received my sanction for the settlement of trade disputes, for the prevention of explosions in mines which have caused the loss of many valuable lives, for amending the Truck Act, for the construction of light railways, for the amendment of the Irish Land Laws, and for facilitating the creation, by purchase, of a larger class of occupying freeholders in Ireland."

Thus five of the thirteen important measures announced in the Queen's Speech at the opening of the session had become law, whilst Supply had been discussed in a more methodical way than had been before attempted, and the House had not been called upon to protract its sittings beyond the date originally fixed. On the other hand the principal bill of the session, the Education Bill, had been abandoned under circumstances detailed at length elsewhere, and it could not be denied that its early withdrawal in committee after it had passed the second reading by such an overwhelming majority was a serious blow to the prestige of the Ministry. Of obstruction in the recognised meaning of the term there was very little, but the Opposition, holding loosely together and recognising several leaders, were able to harass ministers and to protract discussion more effectively than would have been possible had the minority been more strictly organised on party lines. At the same time the very greatness of the majority was in itself a source of weakness, especially when a measure like the Education Bill came to be discussed in detail. The necessity for severe party allegiance seemed less imperative, and individual wishes and preferences were allowed to play an important part, whilst on such bills as the Agricultural Rating Bill and the Finance Bill the taunts of class legislation made many on the Government side lukewarm in their support of what was described as class legislation.

CHAPTER V.

Installation of Lord Salisbury as Warden of Cinque Ports—Insurrection in Rhodesia—Soudan Expedition—Usurpation at Zanzibar—Crete—The Eastern Question—Seizure of Ottoman Bank—Massacre at Constantinople—Armenian Meetings—Lord Rosebery and the Eastern Question—The Czar at Balmoral—Mr. Gladstone at Liverpool—Sir Henry Fowler on the Cyprus Convention—Speeches by Mr. Asquith, Mr. Bryce, and Sir William Harcourt—Lord Rosebery's Resignation of Leadership of the Liberal Party—Lord Rosebery speaks at Edinburgh—Feeling in the Country—The Education Question—Speech by Sir John Gorst—Rate-aid Movement—Objections by Chancellor of the Exchequer—Resolutions of National Society—Church House Conference—Miscellaneous Public Speeches—Armenian Meeting at St. James's Hall—Lord Rosebery at Colchester—Mr. Goschen at Birmingham—Lord Dufferin on Foreign Opinion—Lord Salisbury at the Guildhall—Lord Crewe on Home Rule—Mr. Morley's Opinions—East Bradford Election—Mr. George Russell's "Forward Movement"—Colston Day—Mr. Chamberlain on Commerce—Mr. Balfour at Rochdale—Famine in India—Roman Catholics and the Education Question—The Cutlers' Feast—Mr. Johnson-Ferguson and the Loughborough Division—Sir Robert Reid on the Vacant Leadership—The British Empire League—More Speeches—National Liberal Federation—Mr. Balfour on Political Feeling in Scotland—Close of the Year.

THE prorogation was perhaps as much welcomed by the country as by Parliament, for the country had not got over the weariness induced by a succession of long sessions, productive of little besides talk.

Political questions vanished for a considerable time, but there was still Li Hung Chang to provide a daily sensation for the curious, though in eight days he sailed for the United States. News of the arrival of Dr. Nansen, the arctic explorer, at Vardoe, in Norway, was received in the middle of August, and particulars of his adventures and discoveries followed soon afterwards.

A personal though hardly a political event, in which the Prime Minister was concerned, occurred on the day after the prorogation of Parliament (Aug. 15). Lord Salisbury was then installed at Dover as Warden of the Cinque Ports, in succession to Lord Dufferin. There was a brilliant ceremonial, and a luncheon at which Lord Dufferin proposed the Lord Warden's health. In replying to the toast, Lord Salisbury alluded to the importance of Dover as a place of defence, and expressed the hope that the Government would strengthen its position. He thought that, in case of war, the circumstances of existing naval warfare would drive the fighting into the narrow seas, and the Cinque Ports and the coast to which they belong would always be in the front of the battle. The aspect of the world at large was one of peace, but it was impossible to ignore the feelings of uneasiness which at times beset the Governments of Europe, because of the gangrene existing at its south-eastern extremity. He did not intend, however, to volunteer for the rôle of physician to cut it out, and he did not think that the Government would do anything to depart from unity of action with the other Powers; but none the less, the

danger existed, and would continue, and so long as it existed there would be the fear of a disturbance of the European equilibrium.

There were many foreign and external questions to exercise the public mind. Prominent among these was the trouble in South-eastern Europe, so forcibly indicated by Lord Salisbury. The native insurrection in Rhodesia was also a cause of much anxiety, not from any fear that the natives would prevail, but because the difficulties of transit affected the supply of food, and hindered the advance of troops. No anxiety was felt in regard to the Soudan expedition, which made rapid and brilliant progress, overcoming all obstacles, and routing the enemy whenever he ventured to show himself. Catastrophes of storm and cholera were the chief difficulties with which the expedition had to contend; but, in spite of these, the forward movement was made as soon as the Nile was sufficiently high to admit of it, and Dongola was occupied before the end of September. Meanwhile startling news was received from East Africa. The Sultan of Zanzibar had died suddenly, probably from other than natural causes (Aug. 26), and his nephew, Said Khalid, whom the British Government had refused to recognise as his heir, had seized the palace, proclaimed himself Sultan, and defied the British authorities. Fortunately Admiral Rawson in his flagship, the *St. George*, was within hail, and on his arrival the *St. George* and three gunboats took up a position commanding the palace. An ultimatum was sent to the usurper at seven o'clock on the morning after the seizure, informing him that unless he surrendered before nine o'clock the ships would open fire. There was no surrender, and at nine the ships fired on the palace, which was reduced to a ruin in thirty-seven minutes. Khalid fled to the German Consulate, where he was allowed to remain, and whence he was eventually deported in a German ship. There was something offensive to British feeling in the action of Germany in the matter, but the result was that Khalid became a burden on the hands of the German Government, and the British Government were well rid of him. The Government were urged to annex Zanzibar, but they deemed it better to let the old arrangement continue, perhaps because the modified slave system, which could not be summarily abolished, presented a difficulty, and Said Hamud Cin Mahomed was appointed Sultan.

Though all efforts towards a solution of the Turkish-Armenian question were vain, Lord Salisbury achieved a triumph in the case of Crete. He obtained the assent of the Powers to a constitution for the island, amounting to a practical autonomy. The Porte was to receive a tribute of £T10,000. The Sultan was to appoint a Christian Governor for five years, but as the Powers were to approve the appointment, and the Governor was not to be removed without their consent, the Sultan's authority in the matter would be nominal. The consuls-general

of the Powers were to aid the Governor as an informal council, and the Assembly was to be continued with enlarged powers. A local gendarmerie was to be raised, and that force and the judicial and civil services were to be under the control of the Governor and the Assembly. This scheme was accepted by the Cretans, and submitted to, of necessity, by the Sultan; and its intended effect was to prevent the further contamination of Crete by the poisonous "gangrene" at Constantinople.

At that capital, however, things went from bad to worse. A band of Armenians seized the Ottoman Bank (Aug. 26), not, as was afterwards made clear, for the purposes of robbery, but to impress Europe with a keener sense of the wrongs of the Sultan's Christian subjects. That effect was produced, but by the horrible massacre of Armenians and others that followed this ill-considered act, rather than by the act itself. It was computed that from 5,000 to 7,000 unoffending persons were done to death in the streets of Constantinople by gangs of ruffians who received their authority direct from the palace. The Sultan's troops refused to stop them in their murderous work, and it was clear that the assassins were the mere instruments of the Sultan himself. Mr. Herbert, the British *Chargé d'Affaires*, was promptly on the spot, and acted with great spirit and courage. He landed marines from the *Dryad* to protect the British post office and embassy, and the men thus landed gave protection also—much, it was alleged, to the Sultan's disgust—to many poor wretches who put themselves under their care. It was reported that the Sultan asked Mr. Herbert whether he was aware that the British marines were on foreign soil, and that Mr. Herbert replied that wherever they were they would prevent outrage. These occurrences touched the conscience of Europe, and a stronger line was taken for a time with the Sultan, but the inevitable relapse into lethargy followed, and the Sultan still held his own against the so-called concert of the Powers.

The feeling in England against the Sultan produced by the massacres in Constantinople, and increased by fresh outrages in Anatolia, developed into a formidable agitation. Indignation meetings were held throughout the country, and here and there attempts were made by the Liberal party to use these meetings for the purpose of an attack upon the Government. The leaders of the Opposition had not countenanced action of that kind, but on the part of some of them there were signs of possible acquiescence. The *Daily Chronicle* of September 12 published a "message" from Mr. Asquith, which was in these terms:—

"I am in entire accord with the conviction that the time has come when Great Britain should refuse to hold further terms with a Government which has become a mere instrument for executing the purposes of a will either criminal or insane. The European Powers, by whose favour the Sultan holds his

throne, cannot condone past crimes or ignore future dangers without sharing the guilt of the one, and becoming directly responsible for the other. I hope we shall witness such a manifestation of opinion here as will save Great Britain from any such complicity, and give strength and authority to decided action on the part of our Government."

Lord Rosebery had deprecated any censure of the Government, and had himself incurred censure at the hands of a section of his party, for what they regarded as his lukewarmness. But the *Times* (Sept. 14) published a letter from him, addressed to Dr. Guinness Rogers, the language of which was less reserved than some of his previous communications, though it showed him to be still opposed to anything like party agitation. The letter was as follows:—

"There is a feeling—a passion—in which I should hope every one in these islands concurs, of indignation almost past the power of expression at these last atrocities in Constantinople. To doubt the force of that feeling would be to doubt the existence of human sympathy. What is more, it is aggravated beyond endurance by the appearance, and, perhaps, the reality, of impotence. What are we all to do? Many look to the leaders of the Liberal party to give an impulse. In my opinion such an impulse would be a mistake. This is not a party question. It is far above and beyond party. It is a question of common Christianity, humanity, and civilisation. . . . The responsibility in the present situation rests less with the Government than with the Great Powers of Europe, and our Government does not appear, I am sorry to say, to be in particularly cordial relations with any of those Powers. How far the present situation and these relations are due to the present Government, it is alien to my present purpose to inquire. The question we have to consider is what private and honest people can do to forward what is right. . . . I am not going to censure the feeling or sense of my fellow-countrymen by saying that this is a party question; and as it is not a party question it would be fatal to make it a party question. Let it be in demonstration, as in fact, a national question. As Europe is now situated, I hope for more from the efforts of diplomacy under this new sting of humiliation to bring about European action than I do from public meetings. I found hopes, too, on the natural sentiments of the young Emperor, soon to be among us, who has such power, such responsibility, such immeasurable possibility of well-doing. But if there be meetings—and I should rejoice to see them everywhere if only as the public negation of apathy—let them be national, spontaneous, and unsectional; let them not be suspected as the whisper of faction; let them be broadly and indisputably the unprompted voice of the nation, for this will double and treble their influence and effect."

A few days later, Lord Rosebery appeared to modify the

mild reflections upon the Government contained in his letter to Dr. Guinness Rogers. Copies of some strong resolutions passed at an indignation meeting were sent to him, and he wrote as follows to the sender :—

“First you think that ‘the situation is such at the present time that this country could safely go forward, depose the Sultan, and appoint his successor, with the needful curtailment of his power.’ Lord Rosebery cannot agree with this view, in face of the declaration of Russia in August, 1895, that she would oppose separate action on the part of any Power, and there is no reason to think that she would have stood alone in that resistance, or that she has modified her attitude. To go forward alone would, therefore, unless some understanding can be arrived at, involve a European war. Secondly, you say that ‘very many people are looking to Lord Rosebery to point out the duty of the Government.’ Now, the duty of the Government seems to Lord Rosebery to be clear—to take every measure that does not involve European war to put an end to the detestable system of government (for it is a system as well as a man) which now exists in Turkey. Lord Rosebery cannot doubt that they are doing this, for to doubt it would be to doubt equally their humanity and their common-sense. But he is not prepared, in ignorance of much that the Government only can know, to assume the position of the Executive, and to attempt to direct the Government of the country.”

The agitation went on, and some point was given to it by the visit of the Czar to the Queen at Balmoral. It was hoped that the mind of the Czar would be impressed by the evident national feeling of England, and it was believed that Lord Salisbury's hands would be strengthened by the same means for more effective action upon and through the Powers. Among the indignation meetings held at this time was an important one at Liverpool, at which Mr. Gladstone addressed an audience of 6,000 persons (Sept. 24). Mr. Gladstone disclaimed any wish to make the movement a party one, and he admitted that the present and previous ministers had acted rightly in seeking to maintain the concert of Europe. But they wanted the Government to take every step that was possible, consistently with reason, to put an end to a terrible evil. Neither reason nor duty would permit the country to place itself in a condition of war with united Europe, or to take measures that would tend to war. But that did not mean that England was, under all circumstances, to forego her own right of ultimate judgment upon her duties and her powers. “As to this idea—that war, that the threat of war in insignificant newspapers, and by random gossips going about from one place to another, even if among the places be included the doorways of some public department—to suppose that that implies that all independent action on the part of this great country is to be made chargeable for producing war in Europe,

is, in my opinion, a mistake almost more deplorable perhaps even than any of those mistakes that have ever before been committed in the history of diplomacy."

Mr. Gladstone went on to say that the question was whether we had the right, according to the law of nations, to threaten Turkey with coercion—which did not of itself mean war, and, judiciously employed, had often averted war. Under the Anglo-Turkish Convention of 1878, which received the substantial approval of the Powers, we clearly had that right. We guaranteed the Turkish frontier in Asia Minor on condition that effective reforms should be introduced into the Asiatic provinces. As to possible measures to be taken for enforcing this demand, we might, in the first instance—supposing the co-operation of every one of the other Powers failed us—recall our Ambassador from Constantinople and dismiss the Turkish Ambassador from London. That would be a withdrawal of countenance and an escape from responsibility, so far as it went. If we afterwards deemed it right to take further action, we must begin by passing "a self-denying ordinance." We must declare that we would on no account turn the hostilities to our private advantage. Such a declaration was made by France and England on the eve of the Crimean War, and honourably kept. If after we had in a binding manner limited our own proceedings against the Porte to the suppression of mischief in its aggravated form; if, then, Europe threatened us with war, it might indeed be necessary to recede, as France had, under parallel circumstances, to recede from her individual policy on the Eastern Question in 1840. "She receded without loss either of honour or of power. She receded believing that she had been right and wise, and that others had been wrong and unwise. I declare, in my judgment, it would be far better even to run the risk, which I believe no risk at all, of recession than to continue the present state of things, in which we become ministers and co-operators with the Sultan by ensuring his impunity and encouraging him to continue his monstrous acts."

In concluding his impassioned speech Mr. Gladstone urged that, come what might, we should extricate ourselves from an ambiguous position, and refuse to stand neutral in the presence of the most terrible and most monstrous series of proceedings that had ever been recorded in the dismal and deplorable history of human crime.

Mr. Gladstone particularised in an article in the *Nineteenth Century* for October his view of the right of England to address separate demands to the Sultan, and to take independent action for enforcing them. He stated his view thus:—

"We are entitled to demand of the Sultan the immediate fulfilment, under his treaty with us, of his engagements. We have, in the face of the world, bound ourselves to secure good government for Armenia and for Asiatic Turkey. And for thus binding ourselves we have received what we have declared to

be valuable consideration in a virtual addition to the territory of the empire. And all this we have done, not in concert with Europe, but by our own sole action, on our own sole responsibility. However we may desire and strive to obtain the co-operation of others, it is possible for us to lay down this doctrine: England may give for herself the most solemn pledges in the most binding shape, but she now claims the right of referring it to some other person or persons, state or states, not consulted or concerned in her act, to determine whether she shall endeavour to the utmost of her ability to fulfil them. If this doctrine is really to be adopted, I would respectfully propose that the old word 'honour' should be effaced from our dictionaries, and dropped from our language."

This rendering of the effect of the Cyprus Convention was contested on all sides, except among those personal followers of Mr. Gladstone who were even more ready than he to take action at all risks. Mr. Gladstone's conclusion was undoubtedly wrong. The Cyprus Convention was a matter of history, and its provisions were so clear that if it had conferred on England the powers Mr. Gladstone read into it the fact would have been uppermost in everybody's knowledge. Perhaps the best statement of the actual character and effect of the Cyprus Convention was contained in a speech of Sir Henry Fowler's, delivered later in the year. Speaking at Wolverhampton (Dec. 11), he said:—

"I think it will be admitted that the only instrument which can be quoted as authorising the contention that any duty of interference between Turkey and her subjects is imposed upon Great Britain is the Cyprus Convention. That convention was entered into, as stated in its preamble, for forming a defensive alliance between Great Britain and Turkey with the object of securing for the future the territories in Asia of the Sultan. The obligation which Great Britain undertook was to join the Sultan in defending his Asiatic dominions if they were invaded by Russia. In return the Sultan promised to England to introduce necessary reforms into the government, and for the protection of the Christian and other subjects of the Sultan in Asia. The other provision was a cession of Cyprus to enable England to make the necessary preparations for executing her engagement to defend Asiatic Turkey. Cyprus was to be evacuated, and the convention terminated, if Russia restored to Turkey the conquests made in Armenia during the late war. Now that is the whole of this celebrated treaty. I cannot detect the creation of any right, much less any obligation on Great Britain, to interfere. We had the right to refuse to defend Turkey if she refused to reform. We were bound to defend Turkey against Russia if Turkey reformed. On his return to London Lord Salisbury addressed a despatch to the English Ambassador at Paris enclosing M. Waddington's reply to the communication from Berlin, and after referring to the

conversations between himself and M. Waddington with respect to the Cyprus Convention, Lord Salisbury stated that the efforts of Great Britain would be directed in the future, as they were at the congress at Berlin, to securing the equal rights of men of all religions, but that Great Britain was not under an obligation to undertake the special defence of any of the religious bodies in Asiatic Turkey. In the face of this evidence—the design of the treaty, its actual provisions, the authorised explanations of it given at the time, and the uniform action, or rather non-action, which has been pursued by the Cabinets of Lord Beaconsfield, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Salisbury, and Lord Rosebery, which have been in power during the nineteen years which have elapsed since that treaty was signed—I deny that we were under any covenant or any treaty obligation to compel Turkey by force to reform her government in Armenia.”

Though little progress was made during the year towards a solution of the Eastern question, it was destined to lead to an important political development at home. Lord Rosebery's frank statement of his opinion exposed him to many remonstrances and suggestions. Replying to one correspondent, who suggested that his position was misunderstood, he wrote:—

“No one can go beyond me in reprobation of the horrors which for two years have been perpetrated, and even now are continuing in Asia Minor while the Powers look on and fly little diplomatic kites. That indignation I have expressed in speeches which, though delivered this year, appear to be forgotten, but I do not want to jump out of the frying-pan into the fire. A European war would be a scene of universal carnage and ruin, and preceded or accompanied by the extermination of the Armenians. I am not willing to invite that risk. I trust to diplomatic action, strenuous, self-denying, and supported by a unanimous nation, to bring the Powers, or some of them, into line. If that fails, nothing will succeed.”

Those of Lord Rosebery's colleagues who spoke on the question, gave a general support to his view that Great Britain could not take action against Turkey single-handed. Mr. Asquith, for instance, in an address to his constituents (Sept. 30) declared that no sane person could maintain that it was the duty of Great Britain to exercise any right or power of interference if the result of her doing so would be to array against her the Powers of Europe, and in particular Russia. Mr. Bryce, speaking at Aberdeen on the same day, discussed various things which it would be right for the Powers to do with Turkey, if only they could be persuaded to do them. If the Powers would not act, he thought that there were things that we could ourselves do, such as abrogate the Cyprus Convention, suspend diplomatic relations, or, as a last alternative, retire from the so-called concert of Europe. He deprecated,

however, the taking of any steps that could bring the country into collision with the other Powers.

It was with more of the circumlocution of the political leader, as well as with more of the fixed attitude of the partisan, that Sir William Harcourt dealt with the question in an address to his constituents (Oct. 5). He said that Mr. Gladstone had expressed, as no one else could do, the nation's desire that the crimes against the Armenians should be stopped, and that the British Government should take a leading part in stopping them. He himself had expressed his sentiments on the Turkish question twenty years ago, and they had not changed since—that it was better to have done with the Turk. But he recognised the necessity for some definite course of action. “Men with a sense of responsibility must endeavour to frame for themselves some idea of what we can do, and what ought to be done. The last thing we ought to allow ourselves to do is to fold our hands in despair, and admit that we are helpless. That is an attitude which England cannot and will not endure. Where she is in the right, she will assert right; and if she has done wrong in the past, she will repair it.” Thus far Sir William Harcourt appeared to put himself in sympathy with Mr. Gladstone's position, but all this was a prelude to some rather ancient history. Sir William glanced back for seventy years to the emancipation of Greece. He paused, in the return glance, to recall the mistakes of the Crimean War, the policy of which, he admitted, he had himself approved at the time. Then he paused again to denounce the policy of the British Government at the Berlin Congress and the Cyprus Convention. Coming near to present interests, he urged that we should seek to arrive at an understanding with Russia; and that the first step in that direction should be to obliterate the Cyprus Convention, which he held to be “a standing menace, a declaration of hostility and exclusion against Russia in the interest of Turkey.”

But Sir William Harcourt did not find in this treaty, or, at all events, did not say that he found in it, the right of action against Turkey which Mr. Gladstone supposed it to contain. Regarding it purely as an engagement to act, not against Turkey, but with Turkey against Russia, he went on to say: “We know it is a convention upon which we have neither the intention nor the desire to act. Why is it to remain on record?” And then, dealing at the close of his speech with the critical question of interference, he added: “I am so profoundly impressed by the peril and improbability of effectual operation in Turkey by our separate action that I decline altogether to entertain such a project until I am satisfied that concert with Russia is out of the question; and when I say concert with Russia I include other great Powers, for in this matter Austria and Germany will not dissociate themselves from Russia, and France is not likely to sever herself from Russia.” Sir William

Harcourt, unfortunately, but perhaps not unintentionally, left unsaid what he would be prepared to do in the event of the refusal of Russia and the other Powers to take action with us.

An important outcome of the Armenian agitation was now close at hand. The newspapers of October 8 contained the following letter, addressed (Oct. 6) by Lord Rosebery to the chief Opposition whip:—

“MY DEAR ELLIS,—The recent course of events makes it necessary to clear the air. I find myself in apparent difference with a considerable mass of the Liberal party on the Eastern question, and in some conflict of opinion with Mr. Gladstone, who must necessarily always exercise a matchless authority in the party, while scarcely from any quarter do I receive explicit support.

“This situation, except as regards Mr. Gladstone, is not altogether new; but in saying this I complain of no one, I regret only that I should appear to divide the energies and try the faith of Liberals.

“This question, however, is above and beyond personal considerations. When I speak, which I do this week, I must speak my mind, and speak it without reference to party. Under these circumstances it is best for the party and myself that I should speak not as leader, but as a free man. I consequently beg to notify to you that the leadership of the party, so far as I am concerned, is vacant, and that I resume my liberty of action.

“I can only feel the deepest gratitude and regret in parting from you and those who, like you, have given me such loyal co-operation under circumstances so difficult.”

Though the announcement in this letter was unexpected, it did not occasion much surprise. Most people, however, read between the lines of the letter, and attributed the resignation to another cause, as well as to the divergencies of opinion on the Eastern question to which Lord Rosebery referred. This additional, and, as was believed, primary cause, was the strained relationship which existed between Lord Rosebery and Sir William Harcourt. It had long been notorious that Sir William Harcourt resented the selection of Lord Rosebery in preference to himself for the post of Prime Minister on Mr. Gladstone's retirement. From the beginning of the Rosebery Administration the two statesmen did not work harmoniously together, and for a long time before Lord Rosebery took this final step friendly communications had ceased between them. Sir William Harcourt, indeed, appeared to make a point of ignoring Lord Rosebery in his political speeches and otherwise. The clearing of the air therefore involved a larger result than the mere text of Lord Rosebery's letter suggested.

It was under a long-standing engagement that Lord Rosebery spoke at Edinburgh on the day next after that on which his letter to Mr. Ellis appeared (Oct. 9). He began his speech

by saying that he did not deprecate the innumerable meetings which had been held all over the country on the Armenian question. He welcomed them (1) because they showed that the spirit of the country was not dead; (2) because they helped to convince foreign Governments (which needed a great deal of convincing) of the unselfishness of our policy; and (3) because they strengthened the hands of the British Government. Such words might seem strange in one who so lately was the leader of the Opposition, but in foreign politics he had never known party, and, least of all, in so grave a crisis as this, when he thought the country needed more guidance than stimulus.

Lord Rosebery went on to speak with detestation of the horrors described in the consular reports—which “seemed to transcend the imagination of every fiendish device”—and to discuss the remedies that had been proposed. The most obvious of these was the deposition of the Sultan. Well, they might probably get a better Sultan, and could not get a worse, but this would not be a permanent remedy, for they had not to deal with a man, but with a method. And, besides, how were they to depose the Sultan? England could not do it alone, for that would be the very isolated action which the Powers of Europe would oppose. And if it was to be done by the concert of the Powers, then the Powers, if they could really be got into line for such a purpose, had better deal with the larger issue involved. Next, there were the indirect methods to which he had alluded last year. But to particularise such methods was to thwart them. “What I will say is this, that though I thought them possible last year, when my information as Minister was comparatively recent, I cannot, on my responsibility, say that, in the present state of circumstances, they are practicable and possible, because I do not doubt—or, at least, I think it extremely probable—that the situation has hardened and crystallised as against British policy since then.”

Then it was suggested that the Cyprus tribute might be withheld, but this was one of the things that went to prove that their instructors had not informed themselves sufficiently. No part of the Cyprus tribute was paid to the Sultan, and to withhold it would injure, not him, but the bondholders. Proceeding, Lord Rosebery said:—

“There is another policy which consists, so far as I can understand it, simply and broadly in handing over to Russia either the Dardanelles or the administration of the Turkish Empire. I have only one preliminary observation to make as to these proposals, which is that neither is the passage of the Dardanelles under our control, nor does the Turkish Empire belong to us. . . . I wish to speak with every wish and every hopefulness of establishing a working understanding with Russia. But when I am asked to hand over large districts to Russian administration I wish to make one remark, which is rather in the nature of a reminder than an observation of my

own—I never permit myself to criticise the internal government of other civilised countries.”

The next policy suggested was that we should withdraw our Ambassador from Constantinople, and give the Turkish Ambassador his passports, and this policy had no less a supporter than Mr. Gladstone. “I am obliged to differ from Mr. Gladstone on this question—but we differ as friends. Perhaps Mr. Gladstone has been the indirect cause, or the latest indirect cause, of the action that I have thought fit to take. But let no one think that for that reason I have regretted his intervention in the Armenian question. . . . I must say that I do not agree with the proposal to withdraw our Ambassador from Constantinople. In the first place, it withdraws our presence from the European concert; it necessitates our handing over our interests to the Ambassador of some friendly State. But, friendly as that State may be, I should prefer those interests remaining in the hands of our own Ambassador, more especially when I observe the tone of the European press. In the next place, we lose the only remaining method by which we can influence the policy of the Sultan. . . . In the next place, if you withdraw your embassy, it will have an effect even more to be regretted: it would deprive your Consuls in Asia Minor—throughout the Turkish Empire, indeed—of almost all their use and employment.”

Lord Rosebery said he would go a step further in deprecating that policy. It was one of the ways by which, without meaning it, the country might drift into war, for, after all, in its essence such a step would be a great affront by one empire to another. “Then there is another part of Mr. Gladstone’s policy which I deprecate. What I understand it to be is this—that you are to put pressure on the Sultan by threatening him with certain action; that if you get no support from the other Powers you are not to take action, but then you are to throw the whole of the responsibility upon the other Powers, and withdraw, so to speak, into your shell. I protest against that policy. It seems to me to be most unfortunate, because, after all, if you can have concert with Europe, bring your concert to bear on the whole question; but do not first announce action, and then when you are unable to take action, withdraw, because you will only find yourself in the same position in which you are now *plus* a public and humiliating confession of impotence.”

On one point more he disagreed with Mr. Gladstone, who apparently held that we were bound in honour by the Cyprus Convention to intervene. He (Lord Rosebery) did not believe that we were so bound. He had always believed that the convention was a dead letter from its very signature. He was not particularly anxious to retain Cyprus, but the difficulty was what to do with it, if we withdrew.

Again, it was asked, why should not Great Britain act alone? She had a righteous cause, an immense fleet, and millions of

money. "Against the possibility of solitary intervention in the affairs of the East, I am prepared, and the party who support the interests of peace must also be vigilant, and must also be prepared, to fight tooth and nail if we do not wish that policy to be carried out. Mr. Gladstone speaks, urging, as I think indirectly, some idea of this kind. He speaks of the phantasm of a European war being excited by any such thing. I believe it is no phantasm at all. I believe that there was a fixed and resolute agreement on the part of the great Powers of Europe—of all of them, or nearly all of them—to resist by force any single-handed intervention by England in the affairs of the East. . . . I only want to point out the practical result, that if that fact is true, and I believe it to have been very recently true, isolated action by Great Britain means a European war."

From this point, Lord Rosebery went on to describe what that calamity would really mean. He dwelt also on the necessity for peace to the British Empire, and from these two arguments—the danger of isolated action, and the importance of peace—he drew the conclusion that any action to be taken in the East must be concerted action. Lord Rosebery added that it would be affectation to deny that some sort of personal statement was expected from him. "I do not profess," he said, "to found my resignation entirely on the difference of opinion that exists between me and many others on the subject of the Armenian question. It is, after all, only the last of a series of incidents." Passing on to speak of the difficulties inherent in the position of a leader of the Liberal party, who was also a peer, he observed: "Well, a man in that position has no chance of succeeding in the lead of the Liberal party unless he receives very exceptional support, very exceptional loyalty, and very exceptional co-operation from the party inside and outside Parliament to make up for his own inherent deficiencies. Perhaps I had no right to expect any such exceptional measure to be dealt out to me, but, at any rate, I cannot say that I received it—rather was my being a peer, which was to some extent the reason, as I have explained, of my impotence, urged as a reason for further hampering my efforts." Proceeding to mention some of his experiences of leadership, Lord Rosebery instanced three events in particular. The first was that before his Government had confronted Parliament for more than two days, they were beaten by their own followers by a majority of two. The second was that the definite and concentrated policy he had urged in view of the general election had not been adopted. And the third was the *coup de grâce* "innocently and unconsciously" administered to him by Mr. Gladstone. In the concluding passages of his speech, Lord Rosebery said:—

"The difficulties that I have recited to you are external difficulties. Of the internal difficulties I will only say that they were not less than the external. Of course it might have

been possible, had I been in the House of Commons, to fight my own fight, and to deal with those difficulties as they arose, imperfectly, I doubt not, but in my own person. Well, I say then that my position was so hampered that it had almost become untenable. I think you will urge that if these were my difficulties I should have resigned earlier; but I kept my position almost beyond the conditions of dignity and of self-respect. Why, for example, you may justly say, did you not, after the general election, when a large part of your party turned their back upon your advice—why did you not say: ‘If you will not follow, I will not lead,’ and resign a position which had ceased to be either dignified or efficient? I will tell you why. In the first place, because the party was then at a very low ebb, and it would not have looked well, and it would not have been well, after holding the position that I had in office under the late Government, if at the first breath of adversity I had deserted the sinking, or the almost sunken, ship; but I am bound also to say this—and this I have never said before, but I trust my colleagues on the platform will excuse me—ever since the general election my resignation has been in the hands of my colleagues to use, and to put in force, whenever they should think fit, and whenever the party and the unity of the party should require it.”

This speech created a highly favourable impression in the country. Its dignity was universally remarked upon, and the feeling became general that the Liberal party could not dispense with Lord Rosebery in the position of its leader. Mr. Asquith, who (with Sir Henry Fowler, Mr. Bryce, and many other prominent members of the Liberal party) was present at the Edinburgh meeting, expressed there and then this general feeling in the following admirable terms:—

“I do not think that I am seriously risking whatever reputation I may have or aspire to as a political prophet if in my forecast publicly stated to you to-night, I say that the more maturely and deliberately the Liberal party throughout this kingdom reflect upon the circumstances of the case, the more strongly will they come to the conclusion that the decision arrived at three years ago, that Lord Rosebery was the only fit successor to Mr. Gladstone, is a decision which has been ratified by events, and that, at any rate in so far as it lies in their power, they are not willing to recede from it.”

Though the *Daily Chronicle* continued to regard Sir William Harcourt as the effective leader of the Liberal party, and he was assured of the support of Mr. Labouchere and of a few Radicals who, like him, were personally opposed to Lord Rosebery, no attempt was made to promote Sir William Harcourt to what had been Lord Rosebery's place. The Organising Executive of the party lost no time in considering whether any and what action was possible, and came to the conclusion that it would not be good policy to take any action at all. So

effectually was this view impressed on the party that the subject was tabooed—though not without some protest—at the meeting of the General Committee of the National Liberal Federation held at Liverpool in December.

Political speeches were numerous in the last three months of the year, and there was ample material for them in the Armenian question, the vacant Liberal leadership, and the Education question. It curiously happened that Liberal speakers sometimes took credit to their own party for defeating the Education Bill, and sometimes ascribed its failure to mismanagement by the Government, or disunion among their supporters. But more interest was felt in the possible proposals of the new bill, to be introduced in the next session, than in the fate of the old one. Doubtless the persistency of the advocates of rate-aid in the Unionist ranks greatly influenced the action of the Government in withdrawing their bill, and the advocates of rate-aid were thus encouraged to proceed with their efforts. The speech of Sir John Gorst at a ruri-decanal conference at Colchester (Sept. 17) also gave them some encouragement. The Vice-President of the Committee on Education said that more grants all round to voluntary school managers out of the Consolidated Fund would not save the voluntary schools from destruction—in the first place, because they could not be adequate; and next, because they could not be permanent. A grant of four shillings, or even of six shillings, could not make up the existing deficiency of twelve shillings in the country and twenty-five shillings in London, in the funds at the disposal of the voluntary schools, as compared with the board schools. Such grants could not be permanent, because the present Government could not last for ever, and common prudence suggested that they should look forward to a time when there would be a Radical majority in Parliament, and a Radical Government. Such a Government could never take away power that had been given to local authorities, but they could and would take away the grant out of the Consolidated Fund. If a grant were made all round to voluntary schools, from which board schools were excluded, as soon as a Radical majority came into power the supplies would be cut off. Sir John Gorst went on to say that one of the greatest weaknesses of the last session had been the division of opinion among the friends of the Government on the Education Bill, and he urged Churchmen to arrive at a common policy, and to make known their view to the Government.

This speech was naturally regarded by the adherents of rate-aid as an invitation to them to agitate for the acceptance of their system. And they proceeded to agitate accordingly. But they were a minority of the supporters of voluntary schools, and it soon became clear that Sir John Gorst spoke for himself only, and not for the Government, in the obvious suggestions of his speech. Later in the autumn (Oct. 29), Sir Michael

Hicks-Beach, speaking at Bristol, put the financial and local difficulties that stood in the way of rate-aid so clearly that its impracticability was evident. Assuming, he said, that Parliament was in favour of rate-aid, how was it to be applied? Aid would have to be given by a local body—the School Board, or the Town Council. Was that local body to be compelled to give the aid whether it liked it or not? Surely that would be a serious interference with the rights of the ratepayers, through their representatives, to manage their own affairs and control their own taxation. But if the local body was not to be compelled to give such aid unless it liked to do so, then he was afraid they would be likely to find that where aid from the rates was not approved it would not be given; and, if given, it would be made the subject of popular agitation and contest at municipal elections. Possibly, in that case, aid might be given by a Town Council in one year, and then, owing to the popular feeling going against it, the composition of the Town Council might be altered, and the aid refused in the following year, landing the voluntary schools in this unfortunate position—that whereas they lost a considerable portion of voluntary subscribers when they obtained the rate in aid, they would never be able to get them back when aid had been reduced. That was a peril of the gravest character to the voluntary schools, and it might land them in a worse position than if they had never had the aid at all. So many shipwrecks might seem to warn them off dangerous quicksands. He did not know whether it was so in this case. He expressed no opinion of his own, much less did he indicate what the decision of the Government might be. He could add for himself and his colleagues that they intended to carry out every pledge they had given to furnish all reasonable and necessary aid to denominational schools so as to retain and secure them as part of the system of elementary education.

But both before and after this note of warning, the rate-aid movement was vigorously pushed on. The subject was one of familiar controversy in the newspapers, and Church of England and other educational organisations made it a matter of lively concern. Among the numerous meetings, at which it was discussed, was a largely-attended one of the Standing Committee of the National Society (Oct. 30), over which the Archbishop-Designate of Canterbury (Dr. Temple) presided. This meeting, held at the National Society's Rooms, resolved *inter alia* to ask the Government for aid from the imperial Exchequer at a rate not less than 6s. a child to all public elementary schools alike; and to ask for aid from the rates in school board districts. The meeting of the National Society's Committee, and its resolutions, were a prelude to a conference at the Church House of members of both convocations and of the houses of laymen (Nov. 5 and 6). The Archbishop of York presided, and the Archbishop-Designate of Canterbury moved the principal reso-

lutions, which were identical with those adopted at the meeting of the National Society's Committee. After pointing out the nature of the difficulties that existed in the maintenance of the voluntary schools, Dr. Temple said that two distinct forms of remedy were advocated—those respectively of State-aid and rate-aid. If they relied on State-aid, there was the risk that it would not be sufficient; while the difficulty in regard to rate-aid was that if they got it the ratepayers might claim a voice in the management of Church schools. It was felt that some compromise ought to be arranged, which would meet the views of the advocates of both methods of relief. He moved a resolution, which was ultimately agreed to, in favour of asking the Government for a grant of 6s. per child in all public elementary schools alike.

The archbishop-designate also moved a resolution "to ask for aid from the rates." Upon this, Lord Cross said that if there were aid from the rates, of course there would have to be representation from the ratepayers, and many would withdraw their subscriptions, and some ratepayers would refuse to pay the rates. If they once lost their schools, the Church of England would have sustained the greatest blow it had ever received. He wished to utter a word of caution against the dangers which lay before them. Lord Cranbrook said that he was afraid they might be living in a fool's paradise. Just and right as rate-aid was, it was beset with the gravest peril, and indeed, if they obtained it, it might not improbably prove the destruction of the schools. The Government had just taken off 2,000,000*l.* of rates, because they were oppressive, and was the Church to ask for the imposition of further rates?

The proceedings on the second day of the conference included resolutions chiefly dealing with matters of detail, but there was much difference of opinion, and the discussions were protracted. Towards the end of the proceedings, the Archbishop of York, as president, expressed the hope that the conference would be willing to sink its differences of opinion, and agree to the scheme as a whole, in order that it might appeal with the more weight to the Government. The Bishop of Hereford asked: "Are we expected to be silent ever after this, except in agreement with all the proposals?" And the Archbishop of York made the extraordinary reply: "On the contrary, I think that elsewhere we may express our opinions individually and freely. We live in a land of liberty. But to-day all I ask is that you should kindly signify your acceptance, for the sake of unanimity, of the whole scheme as it is embodied in these resolutions." Afterwards, on the show of hands being taken, no hands were held up against the scheme, and the archbishop then said: "I am glad to announce to you, and to announce to the Government, and to announce to the world, that we have passed a unanimous resolution embodying the scheme."

A brief indication of the drift of some of the miscellaneous

speeches of public men will suffice. At Darlington (Oct. 13), Sir Michael Hicks-Beach said that the time had gone by in Turkey for paper promises of reform. But upon the question of what could be done to remedy such a state of affairs, Lord Rosebery alone of the Opposition leaders had spoken with wisdom. Mr. Gladstone's proposals were fatuous, and Sir William Harcourt's suggestion, that the Cyprus Convention should be obliterated, was of just as little value. If war was to be avoided, they must start from the point that Turkish territory was to be maintained, while reforms must be insisted upon by the Powers acting in concert. To this the Government were working in a friendly, confident, and unselfish manner. Mr. Asquith, in a speech at Galashiels (Oct. 19), spoke with tolerance and moderation of voluntary schools. But he said that an increased subvention to those schools must "be accompanied by the introduction into the management of some public representative element, which will see that the money that comes from public sources is spent for public purposes." Discussing in the same speech the question of employers' liability, Mr. Asquith said that what was wanted was not compensation but prevention.

A great meeting was held in St. James's Hall, London (Oct. 19), under the presidency of the Bishop of Rochester, to protest against the rule of the Sultan. Among the letters received from distinguished persons who were not able to attend the meeting was the following one from Mr. Gladstone:—

"The great object at the moment is to strengthen the hands of Lord Salisbury for the stoppage of the series of massacres, probably still unfinished, and for provision against their renewal. . . .

"To say that our enforcement of our treaty rights to stop systematic massacre, together with effective security against our abusing them for selfish purposes, would provoke hostilities from one or more Powers, is, in my judgment, a wild paradox, with no support from reason or from history. To advertise beforehand, in the ears of the Great Assassin, that our action will under all circumstances be cut down to what the most backward of the six may think sufficient, appears to me, after the experience we have had, to be an abandonment alike of duty and of prudence. . . .

"I write without the smallest pretension to authority. But I cannot escape or disclaim the moral responsibility of one who, for a period of forty-five years, from the year 1850, frequently had an active concern in the foreign affairs of the country, and who for many years lived, as Prime Minister, in incessant and most intimate relations of confidence with the Foreign Minister of the day. I may perhaps add that I have had rather special opportunities for knowing of what materials the present Sultan, with all his seeming obstinacy, is made. From deplorable and disgraceful causes, he triumphs for the moment, but for the

moment only. In the face of civilised mankind, he has recorded the final condemnation, first and foremost of himself, but next and not less effectually, of those who have been his willing, brutal, and sanguinary tools."

There was a warlike note in most of the speeches, and particularly in that of the Bishop of Hereford, who declared that honour was a greater British interest than peace, and that they were coming perilously near the dishonour of the nation. But the *Daily News* made the apt remark on the prevailing warlike note that it was "an expression of emotion rather than a declaration of policy."

Lord Rosebery, who spoke at the Colchester Oyster Feast on the day after the meeting at St. James's Hall (Oct. 20), said that he sympathised with much of the oratory at that meeting, but failed to find in it a single practical suggestion for dealing with the Eastern question. As to the suggestion made in a letter to the *Times* by Mr. Courtney, "who for some years occupied the post of unofficial adviser to the Governments and Parliaments and peoples of this country"—namely, that we should surrender the control of Egypt and Cyprus, to show other Powers our disinterestedness—he said that was the "confidence trick," a pastime which had lost many people much property, but was never indulged in by a great State, confident in the purity of its own intentions, and reliant on the history of its past. Incidentally Lord Rosebery said he had heard that his name had been hissed in St. James's Hall, while that of Lord Salisbury had been cheered. The hissing was a matter of great indifference to him, but also of some perplexity, because, as he understood it, Lord Salisbury and he were absolutely at one on the matter.

In an inaugural address at Birmingham, as president for the year of the Birmingham and Midland Institute (Oct. 22), Mr. Goschen appropriately used a non-political occasion to enforce an important political lesson. The subject of the address was "International Prejudice," and the speaker pleaded for the study of contemporary history as a means to the better understanding of one people by another. He pointed to the misconstruction of the acts of England by foreign nations in such historic events as the abolition of slavery, and, coming down to the present day, remarked on the false impression produced abroad by the sympathy of England for the Armenians. But international prejudice, Mr. Goschen said, had two sides, and he went on to show how it happened that in such a matter the nations of the continent did not feel as we did.

Lord Dufferin spoke in a similar strain at a banquet given in his honour at Belfast (Oct. 28). We Englishmen, he said, safe within the circuit of our tutelary seas, could form no conception of the haunting anxieties which embittered the existence of the nations of Central Europe upon whose frontier hung a threatening cloud of war. "With such a sword of

Damocles hanging over each country's head, you can understand how angry all become at the thought of what they consider the inconsiderate action of an outsider like ourselves precipitating the risk of a universal disaster. The very circumstance of our being out of the path of the storm is an additional subject of offence and irritation, and this feeling is still further enhanced by Europe being divided—at all events for the moment, I do not say permanently, for all alliances are kaleidoscopic—into two independent interests, the one represented by what for all practical purposes we may call the Dual, and the other by the Triple Alliance. Each confederacy is alive to the effect which our co-operation on either side might have upon the result in the case of an ulterior conflict, and all are united in abusing what they call our selfish isolation and our indifference to the vital interests that preoccupy themselves.”

But, however little Europe liked us, Lord Dufferin went on to say, she could not help respecting us, and when our detractors talked about our loss of prestige nobody knew better than themselves that they were talking arrant nonsense. He added that a conviction borne in upon him by his long contact with the outside world was this—that, in spite of Christianity and civilisation, force and not right was still the dominant factor in human affairs, and that no nation's independence or possessions were safe for a moment unless she could guard them with her own right hand.

The Guildhall banquet to her Majesty's ministers (Nov. 9) afforded the customary opportunity to the Prime Minister for a statement—in this instance an important statement—on public affairs. In his opening sentences Lord Salisbury referred with satisfaction to the presence of the United States Ambassador at that historic gathering, and congratulated him on the splendid pronouncement which the great people he represented had made “in behalf of principles which lie at the base of all human society.” This allusion to the victory of Mr. McKinley in the United States presidency election, was received with enthusiastic cheers. Proceeding, Lord Salisbury spoke of the difficulty which had been experienced in the attempts of the British and United States Governments to find a means of settling the Venezuelan boundary dispute, and announced that a solution of the difficulty had been found. “The question has been, not whether there should be arbitration, but whether the arbitration should have unrestricted application, and we have always claimed that those who, apart from historic right, had the right which attaches to established settlements—the settled districts—that they should be excluded from the arbitration. Our difficulty for many months has been to find how to define the settled districts, and a solution has been found by the Government of the United States. It is a very simple solution. I believe I am not using unduly sanguine words when I say that I believe it has brought this controversy to an end.”

Lord Salisbury then went on to say that after an anxious year at the Foreign Office they had floated into a period of comparative calm. But there was one trouble which still remained—the trouble that affected the Turkish Empire. That question had aroused a great deal of feeling throughout Europe, and especially in England, where one peculiarity had been that in respect to this matter the jingoes had not been jingoes and the lovers of peace had not been lovers of peace. A certain number of voices—some of them great voices—had been raised in favour of isolated action by this country; but if we wished to give reformed government to both the Christian and Moslem subjects of the Sultan it was desirable to enlist the co-operation of as many of the nations of the world as possible. As to the suggested remedy of a military occupation of Turkey, it would require the disposal of a very large army, and if they adopted such a policy they must begin by establishing the conscription. He therefore still saw no other course open to Great Britain than that of working through the European concert. If the other Powers objected to isolated action, we ran the great risk not only of failing in the undertaking, but of bringing about increased horrors. He and his colleagues believed that co-operation with the other Powers was the course that would conduce the most to the objects they had in view, and they altogether demurred to the idea that they could compel the other Powers to join with them in any policy which might seem to them most desirable.

A war in Eastern Europe, he pointed out, might involve great territorial changes, cripple huge industries, and threaten vital national interests in other countries, and the peoples of those countries could not be expected to look on the Eastern problem in quite the same emotional and philanthropic spirit with which Great Britain in her splendid isolation was able to view it. Near the end of his speech, *à propos* of certain so-called disclosures and criticisms in the German press attributed to Prince Bismarck, Lord Salisbury alluded to the relations subsisting between England and Russia. "Speaking from the Foreign Office point of view, I regret to say that we have discussions with all Powers, but the discussions we have with Russia are by no means the most voluminous—I should almost say that they are the most concise of all in which we are engaged. It is, therefore, I think, a superstition of an antiquated diplomacy that there is any necessary antagonism between Russia and Great Britain."

The speech concluded with the following eloquent declaration as to the duty of England: "Our first duty is towards the people of this country, to maintain their interests and their rights; our second duty is to all humanity, Moslem as well as Christian, to the people who constitute the armies of Continental Europe as well as to the miserable wretches who have suffered in these Armenian massacres. It is our duty, so far as we can,

to rescue the one without endangering the other; to bring redress to the thousands without threatening the millions with ruin; and we believe we have some ground for a confident hope that by placing ourselves frankly on the side of the European Powers, and doing all we can to develop in them any wish, any desire, to procure better things—doing all we can to direct their counsels wisely, and to bring their forces, if need be, into useful application—we shall be able to wipe out this great disgrace which blots the fair fields of South-eastern Europe, without imperilling the harmony of the Powers, and without bringing any hazard to the priceless blessings of the peace which we value so dearly.”

The question of Home Rule had disappeared from Radical speeches, or was only mentioned with a covert suggestion that it should not be allowed to stand in the way of more practicable things. But at a joint meeting at Cambridge (Nov. 5) of the Eighty Club and the Cambridge University Liberal Club, Lord Crewe openly faced the question. He thought that the Liberal party “should find out very clearly what were the wants of Irish local government, and exactly where it stood, and what means they as Liberals were prepared to adopt to advance it, and then they should come to a clear understanding upon the question of the House of Lords.” This utterance of the Gladstonian lord-lieutenant was interpreted by the newspapers of the following day to mean that Ireland, in Lord Crewe’s opinion, might be fairly well satisfied with a much smaller concession than a separate Parliament.

Mr. Morley, however, though alone among prominent politicians, clung to the original idea of Home Rule. Speaking at Glasgow (Nov. 6), he said that he was not one of those who wished to get into port by throwing their cargo and their friends overboard. He would admit—since he could not help it—that the question of Home Rule was adjourned till the next election. Meanwhile, he should be glad to see ministers redeeming some of the pledges they had given ten years ago to carry out certain Irish reforms admitted by both sides to be necessary—reform of county government, for instance. At the beginning of his speech Mr. Morley alluded to the resignation of the party leadership by Lord Rosebery—“that eminent man, of so many brilliant gifts and talents, of such high and undoubted public spirit, of such vivid and sincere popular sympathies.” But he confessed that he failed to discover between Lord Rosebery’s opinions and those of the great majority of the party, on the Armenian question, so wide a divergence as need have compelled such a severance, and if it were not absolutely compelled, the step seemed hard to understand. On the question of the succession he declined to enter. It was enough for the present that Sir William Harcourt led them in the House of Commons in a way that had extorted universal admiration. At the close of his speech Mr. Morley declared that our position in

Egypt weakened us with respect to the Armenian negotiations, and our advance into the Soudan intensified the suspicion with which we were regarded. He had always said that an understanding with France was the test of successful diplomacy, and he believed that the time had now come when a wise Foreign Minister would take steps to come to a good understanding with France on the subject of Egypt. The effect of that would be that they would go into the councils of Europe with clean hands, and with an untold accession of moral weight.

The observations just recorded were answered by Lord Salisbury in his speech at the Guildhall, and Mr. Morley made a slight rejoinder to the Prime Minister, at Montrose, on the night after the Guildhall Banquet (Nov. 10). He claimed that he was only a humble borrower from Lord Salisbury himself, who in 1887 drew up and offered to the Sultan a convention by which we were to evacuate Egypt within a certain time and under certain conditions as to return.

A bye-election was rendered necessary at East Bradford by the death of the sitting member, Mr. Byron Reed. The Unionist parties readily obtained a candidate in Captain Greville, and Mr. Keir Hardie was early in the field as an Independent Labour party candidate, but the Radical party had great difficulty in getting a candidate. Many eligible men were asked to stand, and one after another refused to do so. Eventually, and in sufficient time to make a good fight for the seat, Mr. A. Billson, of Birkenhead, consented to be the Radical champion. The three-cornered contest threw into strong relief the antipathy of the Labour party for the Radical party, though throughout the contest it was doubtful whether Mr. Keir Hardie would not attract as many Unionist as Radical votes. The poll (Nov. 10) gave Captain Greville a majority of 395 over Mr. Billson, who stood second on the poll; the numbers being, Captain Greville, 4,921; Mr. Billson, 4,526; and Mr. Keir Hardie, 1,953.

The dissatisfaction of a section of the Radical party with the views of the leaders of the party on the Eastern question found expression in a somewhat ludicrous manifesto. A private conference, officially described as "of Liberal politicians from London and the provinces," was held at the Inns of Court Hotel (Nov. 11), when the following resolutions were passed:—

"1. This meeting is of opinion that the policy of non-party agitation in relation to the Armenian question has been a failure, and that the question should be taken up by the Liberal party on party lines.

"2. This meeting recognises that the present Eastern situation is mainly the result of Conservative policy in the past; that Lord Salisbury, as a member of the Berlin Congress, is especially responsible for the existing state of affairs in Armenia; and, therefore, that the present Ministry cannot be trusted to deal with the Armenian question."

These resolutions were issued to the Press, with the information that an Executive Committee, with Mr. G. W. E. Russell as Chairman, had been formed, and that it was proposed to organise party meetings throughout the country. But the conference and its manifesto were not taken seriously, even by those journals which had advocated party action, and this pretentious beginning of the "Forward" party was also its undistinguished ending.

Sir John Gorst delivered an address on the Education Question, at the Constitutional Club (Nov. 12), in which he made no reference to the controversy between rate-aid and State-aid. But, as in his speech at Colchester, he produced the impression that he spoke for himself only, and without any knowledge of what might be the action or the views of the Government. He explained the nature of the rivalry which resulted from the act of 1870 between the board and voluntary school systems. Fully recognising that the board system was an excellent one, and that it had given the ratepayers good value for their money, he held, on the other hand, that the voluntary system had done equally good service. The problem was how to reform the education system so that the competition between board and voluntary schools should be a reasonably fair one. In regard to the allocation of State-aid, Sir John Gorst said that there must be a choice between a grant all round, in which the Government could exercise no discrimination, and the creation of some local authority which could receive the grant, and distribute it with discrimination among schools that were necessitous.

Of the political speeches at the Colston Day Banquets (Nov. 13), that of Lord Lansdowne at the dinner of the Dolphin Society was perhaps the most striking, as foreshadowing the claims of the Army to more liberal supplies. He remarked that the Army was much less in fashion than the Navy. Within the last ten years, the Navy Estimates had risen from 13,000,000*l.* to 22,000,000*l.*, while the Army Estimates had remained virtually at a standstill. Yet there was no greater fallacy than that of supposing that if we were strong at sea we could afford to be indifferent to our strength on shore. Our fleets would not be efficient unless our coaling stations were strongly held by the Army; our fleets would not be independent and mobile unless the Army at home could hold its own for a time at least without aid from the fleet; and, finally, a blow struck at sea might be of very little use unless it could be followed up by a blow struck on land. Another weak point in this system of defence was the gradual abandonment of late years of the admirable basis of calculation, according to which for every battalion abroad there should be another battalion at home. At present we had no fewer than eleven battalions of infantry out of the country without their sister units at home. If, however, there were weak points in our organisation, he did not forget that we were

stronger in some respects than we had ever been in men, arms, and officers.

At the dinner of the Anchor Society, Lord Crewe twitted Lord Salisbury with being, after all, a concealed enemy of the House of Lords, for it was rare that any Government measure of importance was introduced in that House when the Conservative party were in power.

Mr. Chamberlain, who contributed little to the political oratory of the recess, delivered a characteristic speech at a banquet given by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce (Nov. 13), in which he propounded the theory that "commerce is the greatest of all political interests." He stated his theory thus:—

"All the great offices of State are occupied with commercial affairs. The Foreign Office and the Agricultural Office are chiefly engaged in finding new markets and in defending old ones. The War Office and the Admiralty are mostly occupied in preparations for the defence of these markets and for the protection of our commerce. The Boards of Agriculture and of Trade are entirely concerned with those two great branches of industry. Even the Education Department bases its claims upon the public money upon the necessity of keeping our people well to the front in the competition, the commercial competition, which they have to sustain; and the Home Office finds the largest scope for its activity in the protection of the life, the health, and in the promotion of the comfort of the vast army of manual labourers who are engaged in those industries. And, therefore, it is not too much to say that commerce is the greatest of all political interests, and that that Government deserves most the popular approval which does most to increase our trade and to settle it on a firm foundation."

Mr. Chamberlain claimed that the present Government had endeavoured, not unsuccessfully, to increase and develop the free markets of the world. We alone appeared to have been successful in making colonial acquisitions profitable. Additions to the colonial possessions of France and Germany continued to add heavily to the burdens of the taxpayers in those countries, whereas ours became self-supporting in a very short time. Results like these had justified our acquisition of the large extent of territory which had been forced upon us. He ventured to recommend to the House of Commons, as a true, wise, and economical policy, the development of the imperial estates. We had to find new markets, and to develop old ones. The extremely pessimistic statements that had been made of late as to the position and prospects of British trade would not bear examination, but we must continue to be watchful of our interests.

Mr. Arthur Balfour was the chief speaker at a mass meeting at Rochdale, held in connection with the annual conference of the National Union of Conservative Associations (Nov. 17). As

became the occasion, Mr. Balfour chiefly discussed questions of party discipline and tactics. He remarked on the perils of a great majority. The Government, with their majority of 150, were so strong that the Opposition did not venture to meet them in the open. But though in a pitched battle the Ministerialists were bound to be victorious, they must not suppose that their task was therefore an easy one. "A Government, even though it ranks 150 majority behind it, as a Government must necessarily fall into some degree of difficulty—I do not say of discredit, but of difficulty—unless it be supported within the House of Commons by those who are returned to support it; and the necessity of yielding that support is by no means so plain and by no means so obvious when there is such a gigantic margin as we at present possess, as it is when from day to day the ministers of the Crown know not when they are to be put into a minority by a chance division, and whether they may not within a week have to give their seals of office back to her Majesty."

Referring to the Unionist position as created by the last general election, Mr. Balfour said that it was both defensive and constructive. It was defensive against the destructive measures proposed by the late Government, and in that respect it had been completely successful. As regarded the constructive part of their policy, the Government had certain difficulties to contend with, owing to the disorganisation and weakness of their opponents, who had neither leader nor policy. But that disorganisation would not last for ever, and the Opposition would have to rely upon a positive policy, which must, so far as he could see, be a policy of destruction, for the present Government occupied the whole field of moderate and rational reform. He maintained that in construction work the Unionist party were entitled to be proud of the substantial results achieved in the last session. They had carried in six months five of the bills mentioned in the Queen's Speech, whereas the late Government in their three years of office only carried seven out of the twenty-five bills they promised, and two of these were passed by the aid of the "gag." Passing on to speak of the Education Bill, Mr. Balfour said that they must not again risk the object of giving aid to voluntary schools by combining it with other cognate but nevertheless alien subjects. On foreign questions Mr. Balfour laid down the rule that it was safer to discharge the responsibilities that are within our own range of action, before attempting the discharge of those in which other European Powers are equally concerned.

Sir Frank Lockwood made a rather neat retort, at the National Liberal Club (Nov. 18), to Mr. Balfour's statement that the Opposition would not fight in the open. The attacks on the Education Bill, said Sir Frank, were well in the open, for they were made on the ground chosen by the Government themselves.

Alarming news of an impending visitation of famine in India gave an element of gloom to the outlook at the end of the year. Lord George Hamilton, the Secretary of State for India, alluded to the subject in a speech at a public meeting of electors at Turnham Green (Nov. 17). After remarking that the spectre of scarcity had hung over a considerable territory in India for some months, he said that the battle between the forces of preservation and those of destruction had already begun, and must become more acute. The area affected by scarcity comprised a population of 36,000,000; and there was also a threatened district with 16,000,000 of population; and another, partly threatened, with the same number of population. The position was serious, and might become very grave, but he looked forward with some confidence to the effect of the efforts that were being made by the Indian Government. "Here," he said, "we can only watch, co-operate with, and encourage those in India who are dealing with this visitation. It may be that, if the famine attains very large dimensions and the Government have to deal with a very large number of individuals seeking relief, there will be an opportunity for the employment of private agencies and public subscriptions to supplement what the Government is doing. If it should appear to those in India that an appeal to the public for such co-operation is necessary, I feel sure that the appeal will be made in England as well as in India, and that the people of this country will respond to any such demand with that sympathetic liberality which has ever characterised their response to similar appeals."

Though the education controversy was no longer acute, there were occasional signs of the feeling of the Churches upon the question. The English Roman Catholic bishops issued an "appeal," in which they said that, while declining to admit that rate-aid should carry "ratepayers' management," they were ready to admit representatives of the ratepayers on a "council of control," to which the school managers should be accountable. The document concluded as follows: "Whether the money for 'maintenance' is to come from the Treasury or the rates, or from a combination of both, is a secondary question compared to the primary one of placing all public elementary schools upon a permanent basis of equality as to 'maintenance.' In general terms, we approve the proposals to increase the grant, to limit rate-aid to school board areas, to federate schools under councils of general control representing the managers and the County Council or other rating or education authority, to leave the appointment of teachers to the school managers, to submit all accounts to public audit, to exempt school premises from rating, to repeal the 17s. 6d. limit, and to grant the same power to open new voluntary schools within school board areas as is enjoyed without those areas. The Catholics of England will be prepared to give the whole weight of their support and influence to such measures as shall, in our opinion, secure

financial equality in 'maintenance,' and the right of parents to educate their children in their own religion, without on that account being penalised and pauperised in the matter of secular instruction."

Mr. Balfour was the principal guest at the Cutlers' Feast at Sheffield (Nov. 19), and, in replying to the toast of her Majesty's ministers, referred to the gloomy forecasts of the future of British trade which were sometimes put forth. He thought that a little wholesome alarm might now and then do good, but it seemed to him fallacious to argue that a great importation of foreign goods was a proof that our export trade was in danger. A great foreign export trade carried with it as a necessary, as a mathematical, consequence a corresponding import trade. It was unreasonable to fear the inevitable growth of foreign manufactures, or to suppose that the prosperity of other nations must mean our loss. Every nation really gained by the prosperity of its neighbours. But though he neither envied nor dreaded the growth of German manufactures, he thought we had much to learn from Germany. Lord Rosebery had asked for an inquiry into this matter, and that inquiry was being made, or was partly being made, by the department concerned. It was an undoubted fact that the Germans did think it, rightly or wrongly, to be worth while to spend money imperially, municipally and privately upon those branches of scientific research which had a direct bearing upon manufactures to an extent absolutely unknown in this country, which surely ought to take the lead in all commercial matters.

A few days later, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman was at Sheffield, and the principal speaker at a Radical demonstration (Nov. 23). If his observations were general, they were sufficiently sweeping. Ministers, he said, had promised the country a period of repose, but they had sown and harvested a whole crop of troubles at home and abroad. As for the Opposition, they had done effective work on the education question, and they would still resist with all their might any weakening of the school board system, any subvention to denominational schools without public control, any lowering of the standard of education, and any relief of subscribers at the public expense. Passing on to the question of Armenia, Sir Henry said that Liberals would not be satisfied till they heard that Great Britain had taken the lead in urging active measures to put an end to Turkish misgovernment, and had disabused the Powers of their suspicions by offering to renounce the Cyprus Convention, and the Island of Cyprus with it, or by some other evidence of disinterestedness.

Meanwhile, another member of the Opposition, Mr. M'Ewan, had told his constituents (Nov. 20) that he regarded the result of the general election as a revolt against the new Liberalism, which was really collectivism. The Liberal party must purge themselves of the heresies of the past few years, and disassociate

themselves from all intolerant proposals. The forces of the old and new Liberalism would sooner or later come into collision, and a reconstruction of parties would be inevitable.

A collision between a somewhat intolerant section of the Liberal party and a representative of broader views occurred at this time in the Loughborough division of Leicestershire, where Mr. Johnson-Ferguson, the sitting member, was called to account by the local Liberal Association for "the tone and substance of his remarks, as they bear on the drink question," at a licensed victuallers' dinner. Mr. Johnson-Ferguson refused to submit to the strictures of the divisional Liberal Association, and began a campaign of his own against that body, in which the constituency as a whole supported him.

Mr. Asquith, who addressed a large meeting in the Temperance Hall at Leicester, while this Loughborough quarrel was proceeding (Nov. 24), was perhaps not uninfluenced by it in deprecating the tendency of certain sections of the electorate to ignore old party distinctions, and initiate a separate organisation for purposes which only covered part of the field of politics. Mr. Asquith's remarks, however, also bore on labour questions. He admitted that with regard to some of the gravest of our industrial and social problems, the Liberal party had been too prone to indulge in an optimism of averages, and to ignore evils which might be mitigated if not removed by serious statesmanship. Something, indeed, had been done by the party when in power to improve the conditions of labour, but more must be done in the future. They had been called the destructive party, but upon them devolved the duty of resisting the efforts of their Tory opponents to upset Free Trade, and to interfere with the existing educational system.

The question of the leadership of the Liberal party still cropped up in Liberal speeches. Sir Edward Grey said at Blyth, Northumberland (Nov. 25), that the position Lord Rosebery had left vacant would have to remain vacant for some time. In his opinion, there was then no one who could be chosen as leader so unanimously that he would command the position which a leader ought to have. What was most needed in the Liberal party was not a solid and united attempt to gain power for itself, but freedom of thought and discussion. Sir Robert Reid, at Rugby (Nov. 27), spoke still more frankly on the subject of the leadership. He said that when Mr. Gladstone retired, Lord Rosebery was forced into the place of Prime Minister against his inclination by colleagues who, for some reason that had never been explained, would not serve under Sir William Harcourt. Lord Rosebery was the only possible alternative, and if he had declined there must have been a break up of the Government. Under these circumstances, he was entitled to expect from those who drove him into that most difficult situation a warmer support than in ordinary circumstances. No sooner had Lord Rosebery announced his withdrawal and

its reasons than efforts were made to deprecate discussion, and to treat what had happened as a regrettable incident as to which "least said soonest mended." On that point he could not adopt the views presented by some speakers, and notably by Mr. John Morley in his speech at Glasgow. He had been many years in the House of Commons, had observed its proceedings very closely, and had long thought that better results would be obtained by the Liberal party if there were more open communication, and if the rank and file outside as well as inside the walls of Parliament were more considered and more consulted. Let them choose their leader either at once, or, if there were too much friction at the present moment, then after an interval, and, having chosen him, let them stick to him.

Among the conferences on the subject of the next Education Bill was one held by the Evangelical Free Churches at the Memorial Hall, London (Dec. 1). The Rev. Dr. Guinness Rogers, who presided, urged that the time had come when the Free Churches ought to adopt a more aggressive policy on the education question. Resolutions were passed declaring that the present system in elementary schools and training colleges inflicted serious injustice on Nonconformists; demanding the separation of elementary education from sectarian teaching and sectarian control in all schools aided by the State; the abolition of all sectarian and ecclesiastical tests imposed on teachers in State-supported sectarian schools; and the establishment of unsectarian board schools within reasonable reach of every family in the land.

An important organisation, calling itself the British Empire League, of which the Duke of Devonshire was president, was inaugurated at a meeting at the London Guildhall, over which the Lord Mayor presided (Dec. 3). In moving a resolution approving the constitution of the league, the Duke of Devonshire said that those who had it in hand did not claim to be making any great or momentous new departure. Experience had taught them the necessity of caution, of moderation, of prudence, perhaps of humility. They had received some checks, and suffered some disappointments—notably in the dissolution of the Imperial Federation League, the predecessor of that which had now been formed. The British Empire League, however, sought to continue its work of informing and educating the public mind as to the common interests of the Queen's subjects. There would doubtless be general agreement with the view expressed by Mr. Chamberlain a few months ago—that if the question of imperial unity was to be approached in a practical spirit it must be approached from the commercial side. The suggestion had not hitherto met with such a response from our principal colonies as would justify its being brought forward for discussion at another conference. The duke went on to observe that the conference of 1887 had at least one immediate result of a practical character. It produced the naval agreement with

the Australasian colonies which was approaching its term, and to the renewal of which the Government attached the greatest importance.

The opinion of Sir Henry Fowler on the effect of the Cyprus Convention, as stated in an address to his constituents (Dec. 11), has already been recorded in this chapter. Reviewing the history of the session in the same speech, Sir Henry characterised the Agricultural Rating Act as both a gigantic injustice and a financial folly. Touching the education question, he did not think they were going to have rate-aid, because nobody appeared to be in favour of it. Certainly, if money was to be paid out of the rates, those who represented the ratepayers must have the control of it, and not such a sham control as had been discussed at the Church House Conference. He agreed with Lord Rosebery that single-handed interference on our part in the East would mean a European war, and he would resolutely oppose such a step. On the question of the party leadership he unreservedly deplored Lord Rosebery's resignation, and believed that the majority of the Liberal party shared their late leader's opinions and approved his policy.

Mr. Asquith spoke in a non-committal mood in an address to the Manchester Reform Club (Dec. 11). He said that the silence or reserve of Liberals respecting foreign affairs must not be construed as a reluctant tribute to sagacity which it was impossible to impeach or question. Liberals suspended their judgment till they had before them an authoritative statement of facts. With regard to Armenia and the Armenians, they certainly required more solid assurances than had as yet been vouchsafed by any minister of the Crown that adequate endeavours were being made to secure a satisfactory as well as an early solution of the question. The policy of the expedition to the Soudan he condemned not as intrinsically bad, but as inopportune. Parenthetically Mr. Asquith observed that he was not one of those who considered the time had come when it was our duty, or consistent with our duty, to clear bag and baggage out of Egypt, nor did he believe any of the Great Powers—even France—really wanted us to do so. On the settlement of the Venezuela difficulty he heartily congratulated the Government, though he could not forget that the result had been obtained simply through Lord Salisbury's abandonment of the two main contentions he had put forth in the despatch to Mr. Olney of November, 1895. Passing to home affairs Mr. Asquith touched among other things on the question of employers' liability. They had heard a great deal, especially at the last election, of proposals for universal compensation, and with the object aimed at he was in absolute sympathy; but the scale would have to be adequate, and the burden would ultimately fall on the workmen. As to the contracting-out clause, he had been blamed, and the Government of which he was a member had been blamed, for what was called their

pedantic adherence to a mere matter of detail. If he had to go through the struggle again he would adhere to the position he then took up with an energy and conviction which had been greatly increased by subsequent experience.

It has already been stated that the question of the leadership of the Radical party was excluded from the subjects to be discussed by the General Committee of the National Liberal Association at Liverpool (Dec. 16). The matters open to discussion had all been carefully reviewed beforehand by the executive of the federation, by whom also the resolutions submitted to the meeting had been framed or approved. Certain amendments were forbidden, and some dissatisfaction with what was alleged to be the cut and dried character of the proceedings was expressed. But the resolutions adopted were in the main moderate. The federation refused to deal with the Armenian question on party lines, and even on the education question it did not go all lengths with the more aggressive Nonconformists among its members.

Mr. Bryce was perhaps the only colleague of Lord Rosebery in the late Cabinet who contrived to hold with him that no action must be taken by England in the East that could provoke war, and yet to be in agreement with those who clamoured for British action. Addressing the Aberdeen Liberal Association (Dec. 21), he said that no person of weight or experience had ever yet suggested, so far as he knew, that we should do anything which would provoke a European war. But it had never yet been shown that a European war would or need have followed the independent action which it was proposed Great Britain should take. What he had recently learnt from sources at Constantinople, thoroughly well informed upon the matter, convinced him that the British fleet might with safety to itself, and without risk of war, have been sent to Constantinople in November, 1895, just after the first massacres, that its appearance then would have stopped the other massacres which followed. The Turkish Government, such as it was, was then helpless, nor would any other Power have deemed our action, when its disinterested motives had been explained, a *casus belli*. Turning to other questions of foreign policy, Mr. Bryce said no Liberal would blame the Government for their adjustment of the dispute about the Venezuelan frontier. As to domestic affairs, the matter of the financial relations of the three kingdoms, after the report of the recent commission, could not be allowed to sleep. The case of Scotland as well as that of Ireland would have to be considered.

Mr. Balfour also spoke in Scotland at the end of the year (Dec. 26), the occasion being a meeting at Haddington to recognise the political services of the Master of Polwarth. In allusion to the probable effect upon Scotland of the inter-relations of Liberal Unionists and Conservatives, he said that

these two branches of one party were "inextricably intertwined," and that no revolution which he could contemplate was ever likely to separate them. The Scotch, for historic reasons, had always believed that Conservatives represented class interests, but the truth upon that subject was slowly reaching the people, and there was growing up throughout Scotland a party devoted to the Unionist view of imperial obligations and of domestic policy.

The year which had opened amid gloom and threatening storm-clouds closed with its western horizon at least bright with the promise of goodwill and better understanding. In Eastern Europe, the efforts of our Government to protect the Christian populations had found no support among the nations whose nerves were rendered more sensitive by the watchful jealousy with which each regarded its neighbour's words and actions. With France, although the hopes at one moment aroused by the success of the Siam arrangements had passed without establishing more friendly relations, we were not on worse terms than at any time during the past ten years. The old jealousy of Russia, a survival of the blundering policy which culminated in the Crimean War, was rapidly dying out, even from the Conservative programme. With Germany the relations disturbed at the beginning of the year had never been re-established on the old footing, and a distrust of both the political and commercial aims of that country was taking root in the public mind.

The position of the Ministry had been undoubtedly shaken by its apparent limpness in dealing with every question which did not affect some privileged class, and the impression that it was held for ransom by the groups, lay or clerical, by which it had been placed in office, was becoming general. Precedence in its measures had been given to such as would benefit favoured classes, whilst broader questions affecting the nation at large had been indefinitely postponed. The conviction that at a time of especial difficulty and danger the condition of foreign affairs could not be in better or stronger hands than Lord Salisbury's, and the belief that Mr. Chamberlain's Colonial policy would enrich as well as strengthen the British nation, were the foundations of the continued confidence in a Government which more rapidly than most of its predecessors had extinguished the enthusiasm which hailed its advent to power.

CHAPTER VI.

SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.

I. SCOTLAND.

THE course of political events during the year threw as little light upon the causes of the Unionist reaction in 1895 as upon its future development. Scottish Liberalism on that occasion had suffered a severe defeat, and the reason, which might have been obscured during the conflict, did not become more apparent when the smoke of the battle had cleared away. Disestablishment and Home Rule were subjects rarely mentioned in the political speeches of Scotch Liberals to their own or their colleagues' constituents, the Jameson raid and the Armenian massacres apparently furnishing sufficient materials for a platform lecture. The Conservatives, on their side, were rather more active, and Mr. A. J. Balfour's reception at Edinburgh and Glasgow showed that in these former centres of Liberalism there had existed a strong party holding views represented by the First Lord of the Treasury. At the same time the increasing difficulties of the situation in which the Liberal Unionists found themselves were illustrated by a schism in the Scottish Liberal Club in Edinburgh. The truce between the Radicals and the Liberal Unionists, which had lasted since Mr. Gladstone's first Irish Home Rule Bill, was suddenly broken. The Gladstonians claimed and obtained a majority in the Committee of Management, whereupon a leader of the Liberal Unionists and seventy of his colleagues seceded from the Liberal Club, and established a Union Club, which was inaugurated during the summer with considerable *éclat*, and promptly attracted a considerable body of adherents.

The principal speeches made at political gatherings in Scotland have been treated elsewhere, but it should be remarked that it was in a letter to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh that Mr. Gladstone expressed in his strongest language his views upon British duties towards Armenia, and that on the following day from the same capital Lord Rosebery wrote his letter to the Liberal whip notifying his retirement from the leadership of the Liberal party.

The Gladstonians succeeded in regaining one seat—Wick Burghs, which during the lifetime of Sir John Pender had been held by the Liberal Unionists. It was now carried by Mr. Hedderwick, a Radical who had been defeated at the general election. Earlier in the year Mr. John Morley, who had been left out of the new Parliament, found a safe seat, which he strengthened by a largely increased majority, in the Montrose Burghs, on the voluntary retirement of Mr. Shiress Will, Q.C. The seats for North Aberdeen and the Universities

of Edinburgh and St. Andrews, which also became vacant during the year, continued to be held respectively by representatives of the same political opinions as their predecessors—the Universities taking the opportunity of returning unopposed a distinguished physician, Sir Wm. Priestley, M.D.

The proceedings of the General Assemblies at Edinburgh reflected these unfortunate disagreements upon minor questions. Early in the year, conferences between representatives of the three Presbyterian bodies were held to find, if possible, some basis of reunion, but the Disestablishment question proved an insuperable difficulty. Similarly, the three bodies were unable to agree upon the adoption of a common hymnal, and in this matter the refusal of the Established Church party to adopt a hymnal approved by the other two bodies tended to unite the latter against the former. The tone of the representatives of the Established Church was in a way triumphant, but the Moderator (Dr. Scott) warned his hearers that, although the attack on the Establishment had been repelled on this occasion, the danger was not past. The United Presbyterian Synod instructed its committee to support any Disestablishment bill or resolution in Parliament; whilst the Free Church Assembly adopted by an overwhelming majority Principal Rainy's motion in favour of Disestablishment, declaring the termination of the connection between Church and State to be an indispensable preliminary to a general reunion of Scottish Presbyterians. At the same time proposals by both the Free Church and United Presbyterian Synods were favourably received, although no definite resolutions were adopted.

The centenary of the death of Robert Burns was observed with great enthusiasm in various parts of the country, more especially in the neighbourhood of the poet's home. At Irvine, a statue of Burns was unveiled by the Poet Laureate, Mr. A. Austin. A few days later Lord Rosebery, at the grave at Dumfries, and also at Glasgow, delivered a sympathetic and appreciative address on the great Scottish poet, and a month later the ex-Premier unveiled another statue at Paisley; whilst at Glasgow was held a Burns Exhibition, where the manuscripts of his poems and the most valuable relics connected with his name had been collected.

At the beginning of the year there was a keen dispute between the ship engineers on the Clyde and their masters, which was complicated by the alliance of the Clyde men with the Belfast men, who were more resolute than their Scottish allies in resisting the masters' terms. After conferences at Carlisle, over which Lord James presided, the masters' terms were accepted by the Clyde men by a majority of 1,264, but were rejected by the Belfast men by a majority of 533. In the end the Belfast men gave way, and the masters' terms were accepted. A few months later (June) there seemed a chance of a revival of the dispute by the engineers. The men asked for

an advance of $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per hour, while the masters offered $\frac{1}{4}d.$, and ultimately the offer of the masters was accepted. The Govan men, however, stood out for the higher terms, and went on strike in August, on the ground that Messrs. Dunsmuir & Jackson refused to dismiss two non-union men. On Sept. 7 the men gave in, after a five weeks' strike, and thus conceded the question of free labour. The twenty-ninth Trade Union Conference, held in Edinburgh in September, was chiefly remarkable for a resolution to exclude the reporters of non-unionist newspapers, which was carried by a large majority. At the close of the year the coal miners of Lanarkshire, Fife, and the Lothians agitated for an increase of wages, but the masters resisted the claim on the ground that prices were the same as they had been in March, when the wages were reduced. In December the men of the Lothians took a ballot between a strike and a policy of three days' work, and decided in favour of the latter by a large majority. The close of the year left the dispute still undecided. At the same time, the Clyde seamen and firemen put forward a claim for an advance of wages, and threatened a strike, but the agitation quickly collapsed.

II. IRELAND.

The surface of Irish politics throughout the year was remarkably free from those disturbances which on repeated occasions had marked the rise and collapse of national aspirations. The Nationalist party leaders seemed wholly occupied with their own private misunderstandings, of which from time to time they called their supporters to watch the development, ignorant of or indifferent to the effect which such schisms produced upon the outside world. The primary cause of the apparent appeasement of Ireland was doubtless to be sought in her returning prosperity. Two excellent harvests had made the smaller farmers less disposed to be dissatisfied with their lot, whilst the reduction of rents at the same time assisted in improving their position. Positive evidence of an improved state of things was shown by the difficulties which the dispensers of public funds had to surmount before they could divest themselves of 80,000*l.* which the Liberal Government just before leaving office had provided to meet the cry raised for the "Relief of Distress" in Ireland. After two years' efforts, during which it had been found possible to expend only 50,000*l.* on relief works, at a cost of supervision of 25,000*l.*, it was decided to hand over the unexpended balance to another philanthropic commission engaged upon improving the condition of congested districts. The actual work of the Government was such as under ordinary circumstances should have been undertaken by the parishes or union, where fresh roads and bridges were needed for the benefit of the inhabitants; but in this case a Parliamentary grant was hastily taken before due

inquiry had shown the need of the works or the wants of the workers.

The course of political events throughout the year was as erratic as it had often been in previous years. Throughout the first nine months the various parties had been to outward appearance rapidly breaking up into discordant groups, but in the last quarter a conviction arose that the report of the Financial Relations Commission held out the promise of substantial relief from taxation, and forthwith all groups and parties were unanimous in their outcry against British legislation.

The troubles in South Africa naturally afforded the Nationalists opportunities of expressing their satisfaction at the embarrassments of the English Government, and Mr. Redmond on behalf of the Parnellites, and Mr. Dillon and Mr. Davitt for the Nationalists, were not slow in giving vent to their feelings. These outbursts of spleen were, however, to have been expected, and they would have occurred whatever Ministry had been in power. A more immediate interest was aroused in the Irish University question, on which Mr. Gerald Balfour, it was believed, would make some important proposals. The Ulster men were disposed to concede a State-endowed University to the Roman Catholics on the understanding that a similar boon was conferred upon the Presbyterians. In this way it was suggested that Trinity College, Dublin, might retain its character as a national institution, although it was practically patronised by only one division of Protestants.

Mr. Justin M'Carthy's resignation of his thankless post as chairman of the Nationalist Parliamentary party, which he had held since the downfall of Mr. Parnell in 1890, was received with unfeigned regret on all sides of the House of Commons, and was recognised as inevitable. It required a leader of different fibre and temperament to hold in check the lawless elements within the party, and to inspire discipline upon rival colleagues confident in the efficacy of their often antagonistic policies. The choice of a successor who would obtain the allegiance of both Mr. Dillon and Mr. Healy, and their respective followers, was not easy. Mr. Sexton, who might have succeeded in the task, resolutely declined the overtures made to him to take a burden he had so gladly laid down. Mr. Healy, it was asserted, assured him of his cordial and loyal support, but before Mr. Sexton finally decided he looked into Mr. Healy's journal to see if that reflected the cordiality of Mr. Healy's letter. In its issue for the same week, Mr. Sexton was charged with having seized upon the office of the Lord Mayor of Dublin, "by mob intimidation," and also with having "waded through the mire" in order to attain the dazzling eminence of a directorship in the *Freeman's Journal*,—further, that he had been guilty of systematic falsehood in that position; that he had defrauded the shareholders; and, finally, that his retirement from Parlia-

ment was a sham retirement, an affair of finesse, a game played with the object of being coerced to go back as chairman ; and that he had abetted a conspiracy against Mr. M'Carthy in order that he might supplant him. These omens did not appear to favour the hopes of unity which Mr. Healy had encouraged, and Mr. Sexton therefore not only definitely declined the chairmanship, but also resigned his seat in Parliament.

Unofficial overtures were made by a section of the party to induce Mr. Blake to allow his name to be put forward, but they came to nothing, and when the Irish Parliamentary party met at Dublin on the eve of the session (Feb. 18), Mr. Dillon was proposed as sessional chairman, and elected by 38 to 21 votes, the latter representing the strength of Mr. Healy's adherents.

To what extent this division reflected the opinions of the Nationalists as a body it would be impossible to say, but the election for the southern division of the county Louth occurring a few weeks later (Mar. 19), the Anti-Parnellite candidate, Mr. M'Ghee, who stood as a supporter of Mr. Dillon, was returned by a majority of 377 as compared with 958 which the previous occupant had obtained over the Parnellite competitor.

Two characteristic speeches made about this time suggested perhaps a more correct explanation of the apathy of Irish electors. The prosperity of the country had come to be a matter with which politicians had to reckon. The agrarian statistics showed that the land war had practically come to an end throughout the country. A parliamentary return, on the subject of farms on certain Irish estates from which tenants had been evicted since May 1, 1879, showed that whereas at the time of the Evicted Tenants' Commission, out of 1,350 evicted farms, 414 were occupied by old tenants, of whom 333 were reinstated, and 76 purchased, 482 were cultivated by the landlord, or by a land corporation, and 204 were derelict, on March 11 of this year, of 1,414 evicted farms, 734 were occupied by the old tenants, of whom 599 were reinstated, and 131 purchased, 283 were cultivated by the landlord, etc., and 80 were derelict. On December 31, 1886, the deposits in the Irish savings banks amounted to 4,710,000*l.* ; by December 31, 1882, they had risen to 6,171,000*l.* ; and on December 31, 1895, they stood at 7,678,000*l.* The only period which showed any decrease between 1886 and the present time was that between January 1, 1893, and June 30, 1893, when the savings banks' deposits fell by 160,000*l.* ; a period which coincided with the introduction of Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule Bill. This doubling almost of the savings of the poor was, moreover, not accompanied by an increase in population, but by an actual decrease. The population which had the 4,710,000*l.* in deposits was greater than that which had the 7,678,000*l.* That the mass of the people of Ireland had greatly increased in prosperity was shown in the savings banks' returns ; in the yearly diminishing number of mud hovels ; in the improved railway

traffics ; and, lastly, in the increased price paid for the fee-simple of land sold in small lots, and in the huge sums given for tenant-right. This altered condition of things was clearly recognised by the Nationalist leaders. Mr. John Redmond, speaking in Dublin (Apr. 7), virtually admitted that for the present the game of anarchy and agitation was up, and that the work of making government in Ireland impossible had itself become impossible. If, said Mr. Redmond, the Government did not do certain things, then only one thing would remain for Ireland, and that would be to declare war upon the Government. He added, however, that he should not be frank if he said that the Irish people were in a position to enter on a war, even with the weakest Government, with a light heart. "The power of National Ireland had been broken, and its spirit to a large extent had been crushed. Their political opponents, the Anti-Parnellites were demoralised. In Parliament they were despised. They did not attend there ; their spokesman attracted no attention, and commanded no respect. Their ablest men had either left them or had been degraded to the ranks. The most incompetent men and the most impossible men for the position had been made their parliamentary leaders, and their recent selections for Parliament had brought further discredit upon their party. Their organisation was shattered, their funds bankrupt, and their credit exhausted." Yet, he continued, these men represented the large majority of the Nationalist electors of Ireland and the great bulk of the farmers of Ireland. "English politicians knew these things, and the Irish Land Bill would be good or bad just as the Government thought fit to make it. The Irish people had or had not the power of making the situation intolerable for them."

Mr. John Dillon allowed some time to pass before answering this attack upon the party of which he was the leader. His position was a delicate one, for he had to justify himself in the eyes of his fellow-countrymen for acting in alliance with the English Liberals, and at the same time to prepare the latter for the announcement that his party were not prepared to oppose the second reading of the Irish Land Bill. Speaking at the meeting of the National Federation in Dublin (June 3), Mr. Dillon defended his opposition to the English Agricultural Rating Bill, which he declared was unjust to England, for it gave back to the landlords what had been taken from the rich classes by Sir William Harcourt's death duties. It was also unjust to Ireland, as it would rob her of 300,000*l.* or 400,000*l.* a year. Regarding the Irish Land Bill, the Irish party had prepared for the committee stage a number of amendments which would make it a valuable measure, but in its present shape the bill was worthless. He then went on to say that the present was a favourable time for asking for the release of the Irish treason felony prisoners, because England was now on her knees to President Krüger on behalf of the

Rand prisoners. He suggested sending a message to President Krüger asking him, when he had released the four remaining prisoners, to express to the British Government his earnest hope that they would follow his good example by setting free the Irish political prisoners.

The report of Mr. Horace Plunkett's recess committee, notwithstanding the aloofness of the Anti-Parnellite leaders, gave a somewhat more encouraging view of the state of Irish feeling. The work of the committee was avowedly unconnected with political views or aims. Its business was to develop the existing industries of Ireland, to create if possible new sources of profitable labour, and to point out how such undertakings might be advantageously aided. At the outset of their proceedings the committee decided to concentrate their efforts on "the resources of to-day," in other words they recognised agriculture as the industry in which the greater portion of the population was engaged. The result of their inquiries was to produce the conviction that under an improved method the value of the Irish crops and live stock (estimated at 112,000,000*l.* sterling in 1894) might be doubled. With better instruction, obtainable from Holland or Belgium, the flax cultivation might be restored to its former pre-eminence; dairy farming and pig breeding might be vastly improved by the introduction of better machinery and of new breeds; whilst the exportation of dead instead of live cattle would probably revive the Irish leather trade. The committee did not attempt to conceal the fact that the promotion of agriculture, and of the industries connected with it, would entail a considerable outlay for instruction, appliances and stock, and in the first instance recourse would have to be made to State-aid in some form. For this demand, however, the committee did not consider the moment had come; for in the first instance it would be better to see how far private effort would be able to introduce the necessary improvements.

With the close of the session at Westminster, politics became livelier in Ireland, and the approaching assembling of the Irish Nationalist Convention, summoned by Mr. M'Carthy on the occasion of his resignation of the chairmanship, gave special interest to the doings and sayings of Irish politicians. Mr. Healy's supporters were the first to assemble at Dublin (Aug. 18) to give expression to their feelings on Mr. Dillon's policy.

The chairman was Mr. W. Murphy, who began by saying that though the people of Ireland would not be taken in by the proposed Nationalist Convention which Mr. Dillon had summoned, a great many of the Irish Nationalists from the United States and Canada and Australia and the Cape would be taken in by it, as they had had no opportunity of watching the Irish political manoeuvres of the last few years. None of the Parnellites, and not half of the true Irish Nationalists, would go near the convention. He wanted to know what had

become of the Paris fund, and declared that the Irish tenants had got more from the present Government than from the Gladstonians. Mr. Healy, who spoke next, declared that he was prouder of all he had done in helping forward the new Irish Land Act than of anything he had achieved in the last sixteen years. It would root to the soil 400,000 tenants who had got fair rents fixed, and give them a permanent tenure independent of the landlord. And it had also extended the limit of pasture farms that came under the bill from 50% to 100% rateable value. He had thanked Mr. Gerald Balfour publicly for that bill, "though he was not seeking a resident magistrateship for one of his brothers, nor a sub-commissionership for any of his friends."

Then Mr. Healy passed to "what was called 'a convention of the Irish race at home and abroad.'" He held out an olive-branch to the Redmondites, and said that any man who built a golden bridge for their return to the party, would do a great service; but he evidently thought it would be a still greater service to get rid of Mr. Dillon. So far as regarded any return to unity or any settlement of the question of leadership, the convention was hopeless while Mr. Dillon remained at the head. But though Mr. Dillon would weep conventional tears at Mr. Sexton's refusal to take the lead, he had declared that any one who discussed the differences between himself (Mr. Healy) and Mr. Dillon was to be "coughed down and run out of the room," and in that case he should much prefer to be "coughed down" at Westminster, and expelled from the Westminster Parliament. Under Mr. Dillon the party had fallen to a far lower position than it had occupied even in the days of William Shaw, and had become "merely the tail-end of the Liberal party." Finally a resolution was passed that "Mr. Dillon had subordinated the interests of the national cause to the promotion of objects of personal ambition."

The "convention of the Irish race," as the meeting in Dublin was grandiloquently called, was not without its imposing features. Upwards of 2,000 delegates, the majority from the United States and the colonies, met in the Leinster Hall, Dublin (Sept. 1), under the presidency of Dr. O'Donnell, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Raphoe. The proceedings were opened by a prayer in Irish by Father M'Fadden, of Gweedore, followed by the reading of a message from the Pope: "The Holy Father, yearning for the spiritual welfare of the Irish people, prays for the end of dissension." The most noteworthy feature of the meeting was the comparatively small attendance of the superior clergy, and the marked abstention of the Roman Catholic bishops. Dr. O'Donnell, who was the one notable exception, discharged his difficult duties to the general satisfaction, and devoted nearly the whole of his speech to the report of the Financial Commission, which gave authority to the view that Ireland was overtaxed. Business began with a

series of resolutions condemning the recent Land Act as inadequate, and declaring that it could not be accepted even as a temporary settlement of the question; condemning the non-representative and irresponsible system of local government in Irish counties by grand juries; and demanding, among other things, the establishment of a University which should afford to the Roman Catholic people of Ireland "educational opportunities equal to those enjoyed by the favoured minority of her population in the University of Dublin." In supporting the resolutions, Mr. Justin M'Carthy, M.P., said he did not see why the appeal made in calling the present convention was not responded to by every Irish Nationalist; but if the convention decided that the rule of the majority should be enforced, they would gladly welcome back still all those who differed from them.

On the following day (Sept. 2) the chief speeches were those of Father Flynn, who endeavoured to build a golden bridge for the Parnellites' and the Healyites' return to the Irish Parliamentary party, which Mr. T. P. O'Connor succeeded in blowing to pieces by insisting that if they would not accept the verdict of a majority there could be no more unity, even after concessions had been made, than there was then. Mr. W. Sullivan, of Bradford, said that Father Flynn's amendment "meant delay, and delay spelt damnation," and Father Flynn withdrew his amendment, after which Mr. Dillon, feeling that Mr. O'Connor had carried the convention for him, declared his willingness to resign if Mr. Redmond and Mr. Healy would do as he did, and let a new leader be chosen to whom they should all pledge themselves to be loyal. He descanted at length on the wonderful unanimity of all "that mighty gathering" as to the supremacy of its own decrees, and seemed to have forgotten that he had pledged himself that if Mr. Healy brought up before the convention his grounds of quarrel with Mr. Dillon, Mr. Healy should be "coughed down" and run out of the assembly.

The third day was occupied in passing by acclamation the various resolutions—Canon M'Cartan advising that no alliance should be made with any English party; and Mr. Fitzgerald expressing the wish that the Irish party should make the government of Ireland impossible in the English Parliament until an Irish Parliament had been granted. Mr. Blake declared there was no foundation for certain base suggestions as to the administration of the parliamentary fund, and Mr. Dillon assured the convention that none of it set apart for evicted tenants had gone to the parliamentary party.

In the eyes of the world at large the outcome of the National Convention had hardly been commensurate with the pains taken to bring it about. Mr. Dillon, however, took its resolutions and himself equally seriously, and at the subsequent meeting of the Irish National League declared that, as long

as he held the position of chairman, he would maintain the authority of the league and discipline in the party.

This determination was at once challenged by Mr. John Redmond (Sept. 7), who flatly declared that Mr. Dillon did not really represent the Irish people at all. He was opposed in Parliament and in the country by the Healyites and the Parnellites. As for the recent convention, he declared that though he had travelled much in America there were not three of the well-intentioned gentlemen who had attended that convention from the States whose names were familiar to him. The only conciliatory motion made in that convention, the only one tending to reunite the divided Irish parties, was Father Flynn's, and that was withdrawn because it was clear that there was no support for it. Mr. Healy had been treated as a sort of political jackdaw of Rheims, and cursed with bell, book and candle, but his feathers were none the worse for the operation. The support given to the Unionist Government by his section of the Irish party was, he held, perfectly justified. It had been in office over a year, and there had been much less coercion than under Mr. John Morley.

It however speedily came to be admitted that the Bishop of Raphoe in his speech in the convention had struck the note of a new Irish cry, which if properly appreciated and taken up might have made its proceeding resound throughout the three kingdoms. The commission, long promised by Mr. W. H. Smith and Mr. Gladstone, but appointed under Lord Rosebery's administration, to consider the financial relations of England and Ireland, had at length issued its report. The original chairman, Mr. Childers, had died at the beginning of the present year, and his place had been taken by the O'Connor Don. The general report had been signed by eleven out of thirteen members, the two dissentients being Sir Thomas Sutherland, M.P., the Unionist member for Greenock and chairman of the Peninsular and Oriental Steamship Co., and Sir David Barbour, an Indian official with a special experience in financial questions. The final report, signed by the chairman, Mr. Blake, Mr. Sexton, and Mr. J. Redmond, of the Irish party, and seven others, gave adherence to the following principles: "(1) That Great Britain and Ireland must, for the purposes of this inquiry, be considered separate entities; (2) that the Act of Union imposed upon Ireland a much too heavy burden, as the history of their financial relations proves; (3) that the increase of taxation laid upon Ireland between 1853 and 1860 was unjustifiable; (4) that an identical rate of taxation does not necessarily involve equality of burden; (5) that the actual tax-revenue of Ireland is at present one-eleventh of that of Great Britain, and ought not to be more than one-twentieth."

To this report there were added five supplementary reports by commissioners who had signed this, the first by the chairman (the O'Connor Don), Mr. John Redmond, and three others, which

concurred very much with Mr. Childers' draft report, and especially adopted the assessment to death duties as supplying a maximum measure of the relative capacity of the two countries for bearing taxation. A second supplementary report was made by Lord Farrer, Lord Welby, and Mr. B. W. Currie, who thought that Ireland was more heavily taxed than she would be if she were not associated with Great Britain, and also that much more of the revenue raised was spent in Ireland than economy would justify, if she were not associated with a rich country like England. A third supplementary report by Mr. Sexton, Mr. Blake, M.P., and Mr. Slattery, declared that Ireland appeared richer than she really was because her land-assessment was higher than that of Great Britain, and also because so much Irish income left Ireland to be spent by absentees. Mr. Blake further made an addition of his own to Mr. Sexton's report, and Lord Welby to Lord Farrer's. The separate reports by Sir Thomas Sutherland and Sir David Barbour on the whole supported the principle that the fusion of the finances of Great Britain and Ireland was the right system, and that it should rather be extended than revolutionised.

Throughout the dull months of the recess, although politicians of all shades of opinion were roaming from platform to platform, denouncing or upholding the policy of the Ministry in Armenia, Egypt, India and at home, not a single reference was made to this remarkable report, and neither the advocates of Home Rule nor of the Union seemed to find in it materials for oratory. Suddenly the papers were filled with the reports of a meeting held at Cork (Dec. 12), called by the Lord-Lieutenant of the county—a Conservative—and addressed by landlords, Unionists, and Nationalists. The Mayor of Cork presided, and beside him sat the Protestant and Roman Catholic bishops of the diocese, Lord Castletown, Sir Penrose Fitzgerald, Mr. M. Healy, M.P., Sir Joseph M'Kenzie, and many others, Mr. Smith Barry, M.P., being also present. Lord Castletown, in a fervid speech, reminded his hearers that as an obstinate statesman and cruel taxation lost to England the American colonies, so resistance to the principle of the report showing that Ireland was over-taxed by some 2,750,000*l.*, comparing its taxable capacity with that of England, might lose Ireland to England. That country was bound, he said, to return the annual excess to Ireland to be devoted to public works, the restoration of its manufactories, and other important undertakings for Ireland's benefit. Resolutions in this sense were carried with enthusiasm by the combined parties of the Conservatives and the Nationalists. A meeting of the Dublin City Council followed up the stroke of the city of Cork (Dec. 14), the Lord Mayor moving and Sir Robert Sexton, the leader of the Conservatives, seconding a strong motion to the same effect, the resolution stating that in the last thirty-six years Ireland had contributed at least 100,000,000*l.* more than she ought to have paid if her contribution

had been calculated on the taxable capacity of Ireland as compared with that of England. Both meetings assumed as certain that the true financial rule was not that an Irish peasant making 100*l.* a year should pay the same as an English peasant making 100*l.* a year, but that an Irish peasant should either pay considerably less than an English peasant of the same earnings, or receive back the difference, on the ground that he had made his 100*l.* a year with much greater difficulty, on account of the poverty of Ireland.

The first result of this campaign was to bring to light the unknown sympathies between the Irish Nationalists and the landlords, Lord Castletown receiving from Mr. Healy unstinted compliments and congratulations. The newspapers—English as well as Irish—opened their columns to the discussion of the abstruse problem of the relative taxable capacity of the various factors of the United Kingdom. The origin of the commission, its constitution and the terms of reference, were now keenly debated. The more fully the importance of its report was recognised, the more anxious were those who declined to accept its recommendations to explain away the sense of “taxable capacity” of which the Radical members on the commission had taken hold. The English Unionists appealed to their Irish allies to hold aloof from an agitation which was warmly supported by the Nationalists, but the more immediate interests of the former, and the dissatisfaction of the landlords at the manner in which they had been treated by the Irish Land Bills, overpowered all other considerations, and they knowingly drifted into the position of claiming to form an integral portion of the United Kingdom, and of being entitled, in respect of taxation, to separate treatment. The agitation reached its climax at a meeting in the Mansion House, Dublin (Dec. 28), under the presidency of the Lord Mayor—a prominent Home Ruler—when Mr. Ion Trant Hamilton, the Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Dublin, and a stout Conservative, moved:—

“That this meeting of the taxpayers of the city and county of Dublin hereby declares that the excessive burden of imperial taxation in Ireland, disclosed by the report of the Royal Commission on the Financial Relations of Great Britain and Ireland, constitutes a serious national grievance affecting all classes of the community, and demands the immediate attention of her Majesty’s Government with a view to such legislation as will meet the just claims of this country at the earliest possible date.”

In seconding the motion the Archbishop of Dublin observed that the question was not as between Ireland and England, but between Ireland and the Imperial Parliament in which Ireland was represented, and in which Ireland had a voice. He did not think that either at the time of the Union, or in 1815, or in 1853, or at any other time there was in any sense a conspiracy on the part of the Imperial Parliament to act unfairly towards

their native land; and he deprecated the use of such words as "robbery" or "plunder" in this connection. The archbishop went on to combat the view that Ireland had received an adequate set-off for excessive taxation by getting more than her share of imperial expenditure. Mr. Childers thought the set-off could not be put at more than 500,000*l.*, as against over-taxation to the amount of 2,750,000*l.* One of the grounds on which Mr. Childers estimated this set-off of 500,000*l.* was the much larger amount voted for education in Ireland than in England; but if a very large sum were now about to be expended in England upon education, the set-off would be proportionately decreased. Towards the close of his speech, Lord Plunket said he believed that meeting marked an era in the history of Irish national life, that there never was a time when Irishmen of all creeds and political opinions had shown themselves more ready to meet together and, putting aside for the time being their differences, to combine and co-operate for the purpose of advancing the welfare of their own native land. In supporting the resolution, the O'Connor Don said the verdict of the commission had been disputed upon what were called questions of principle, as when it was asserted that Great Britain and Ireland were now, and had been since the amalgamation of the Exchequers in 1817, financially one country. That argument had been abandoned, however, by the Unionist Chancellor of the Exchequer, after consultation with his colleagues, in 1890, when he moved for the appointment of a committee to inquire into "the equity of the financial relations in regard to the resources and population of the three kingdoms." It had been abandoned by the House of Commons, which accepted that motion, and which ordered the preparation of complicated, difficult, and expensive returns, all based on the assumption that Great Britain and Ireland were separate countries for financial purposes; and, lastly, it was absolutely inconsistent with the terms of reference to the commission. The resolution was also spoken to by Mr. Serjeant Dodd, Q.C., and unanimously adopted by the meeting, which was attended by men of such various opinions as Archbishop Walsh, the Earl of Mayo, Viscount Monck, Sir Robert Sexton, Mr. John Dillon, M.P., Mr. John Parnell, M.P., and Mr. Maurice Healy, M.P.

Another meeting, not quite so weighty, but even more striking in its incidents, was held at Limerick (Dec. 29) for the same purpose. Lord Dunraven was in the chair, and it was addressed both by the chairman and the (Roman Catholic) Bishop of Limerick, Bishop O'Dwyer, the same who made so courageous a stand against the "Plan of Campaign" in 1886 and the following years. Now, however, Dr. O'Dwyer was quite on the Irish side, and expressed his impression that if the Unionist Government were not willing to pay back the over-taxation of the Irish people, Irish Unionists might find it necessary to withdraw their support from the Unionist Government. Indeed, it was a

question whether union with England was not "dear at any price." The sensation of the meeting, however, was the rising of John Daly, the released dynamiter, to support one of the resolutions, and especially to pronounce a high panegyric on Lord Castletown, whom he hoped to hail as the "Washington" of Ireland. Lord Dunraven admitted him to the platform, when Mr. Daly expressed his hope that English tea might be emptied into the sea like the tea on which Boston refused to pay duty.

The case of those who adopted the views expressed in the minority report of Sir Thomas Sutherland and Sir D. Barbour was that although the Act of Union made special stipulation for the separate financial treatment of Ireland, this was virtually set aside when in 1817 the English and Irish national debts were amalgamated. In 1819 the tobacco duties had been equalised, and in 1842 the stamp duties were placed on the same footing in the two countries. The income tax was imposed in 1853, and finally in 1858 the spirit duties were assimilated. Thus the whole drift of English fiscal policy, of which Mr. Gladstone accepted the honour and responsibility, had been to assimilate as far as possible the taxation of the two islands. Moreover, two of the most costly services in Ireland—national education and the constabulary—were maintained out of the Imperial Exchequer. Thus, when the year closed, the disputants were divided into distinct camps. In one, where the English Radicals, supported by the Irish of all denominations, entrenched themselves, it was held that the present taxation of Ireland was largely in excess of the relative proportion due to the resources of the two countries, and further, that exorbitance of taxation was not mitigated by extravagance of expenditure. In the other camp, where the political economists supported the Unionists of England and Scotland, it was held that whatever claims Ireland might have for considerate treatment, the basis of equitable financial relations should be sought in the united resources and population of the three kingdoms.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL HISTORY.

CHAPTER I.

FRANCE AND ITALY.

I. FRANCE.

AT the opening of the year the Radical Ministry found itself beset with serious difficulties. On the one hand, it could not dispense with the votes of the Socialist group in the Chamber, whilst, on the other hand, it could not allow the rank and file of that party to disturb order in the streets, and to set the Government at defiance without asserting its responsibility. A crisis was reached on the occasion of the anniversary of Blanqui's death (Jan. 5), when a number of the deceased revolutionist's followers determined to make a demonstration at his grave in the cemetery of Père La Chaise. On their arrival they found the ground already occupied by a strong body of police and soldiers, and a commissary at once informed the Blanquists that they would not be allowed to display the red flags they had brought. Hitherto it had been customary to allow revolutionary manifestations within the precincts of the cemetery to pass without any restriction of the flags and symbols displayed. The Radical Ministry was thus attempting to prohibit what the most moderate Ministries had allowed. The Blanquists, undismayed by the summons, pressed onwards, and were at once charged by the police—the procession broken up and their flags seized. Great was the dismay as well as the anger of the committees of the Radicals and Collectivists on the news becoming known. It was what had happened once before when Gambetta on becoming the chief of the “Grand Ministère” at once proceeded to cut off “the tail” of the party on which he had risen to power. The analogy might have been in itself flattering for the Home Minister, but it was not the less dangerous; and on the very next day the Cabinet made friendly advances towards the Extreme Left by offering to make large concessions to the workmen's syndicates in connection with the Labour Exchange. A special session of the Paris Municipal Council was convened in order to make arrangements for the reorganisation and reopening of that institution, and the proposals of the municipal body were, with very slight modifica-

tion, forthwith approved by the Ministry. The syndicates were to be comfortably installed in the city of Paris, the most important centre of activity for their purpose.

On the eve of the opening of the session M. Bourgeois, the President of the Council, was entertained (Jan. 12) at a grand banquet given by the Lyons municipality, when he took the occasion to explain the programme of the Radical party. In the first place the Government determined to throw some light upon the financial questions which had so long disturbed the public mind. Secondly, they were prepared to recast in a more democratic spirit the whole fiscal system and the management of the departments of the State.

On the reassembling of Parliament (Jan. 14) M. Brisson was re-elected President of the Chamber of Deputies without opposition; but the choice of Vice-Presidents gave rise to a sharp contest. The Radical Left was bitterly hostile to the nomination of M. Raymond Poincaré, a brilliant speaker who as Minister of Public Instruction in a former Cabinet had gained the confidence of the more moderate groups. On the present occasion these rallied to the side of the Republican supporters of the Government, and the more extreme groups of Radicals and Reactionaries were evenly balanced. M. Poincaré was maintained in his post of Vice-President. This strange and unwonted equilibrium of parties in the Lower Chamber necessarily enhanced the importance of the Senate, where M. Challemeil-Lacour having retired on account of failing health, the choice lay between M. Constant and M. Loubet. A meeting of the various Republican groups was held, and it was determined to support the latter candidate, who was consequently elected. On taking his seat as President (Jan. 20) M. Loubet, after paying a customary tribute to the Constitution, expressed his hope that the Senate would not lose sight of the heavy charges which oppressed agriculture, the impossibility of raising further taxes on that industry, and the importance of maintaining the strict equality of all classes in the matter of taxation. This was intended as a protest by anticipation against the project of an income tax which the Cabinet was supposed to favour. The approval which greeted this speech indicated the views of the senators on this subject.

At the same time it seemed as if the Chamber of Deputies was more than ever disposed to retain the Radical Ministry in power. M. Vaillant, a Socialist, having interpellated the Government on the measures it proposed to adopt in view of the want of work, the Minister of Trade declared that it was not within the power of any Ministry to put an end to a general distress by starting public works; and this view was adopted by 400 to 80 votes. A day or two later the President of the Tribunal of Commerce of the Seine threw more light upon the want of work in Paris, when at the installation of the newly-appointed judges he referred to the untoward tendency of

French capital to turn its back upon private and public affairs at home in order to run after foreign investments. But at the very time the cause of the depression was being then clearly explained in one place, the Customs Commission then sitting, notwithstanding the eager protests of the Chambers of Commerce of Paris, Lyons and Marseilles, advised the Government to institute a system analogous to the Italian *catenaccio* to prevent the accumulation of large stocks of corn and flour in view of any future increase in the import duties on cereals. The demands of the protectionists went, however, much further; for they attempted to persuade the Chamber to impose duties by which the potato growers were to obtain advantages over the maize growers; whilst the butter factors, on the ground of preventing fraud, pleaded for the total suppression of margarine. The Chamber, however, could not go quite so far in the way of arbitrary interference, and having negatived the recommendations of the Committee adjourned indefinitely the debate on the proposals of the Government.

More serious difficulties were, meanwhile, threatening the ministerial position. The Radical and Socialist groups decided to send a deputation to M. Bourgeois, as President of the Council, inviting him to put in action the promises he had made of "purifying the *personnel* of the public departments." In other words, they called upon the Prime Minister to replace the existing public officials by the friends or supporters of deputies of the Extreme Left. The Minister of the Interior at once promised to do his utmost to carry out this reform, whilst at the same time the Minister of Commerce laid on the table (Feb. 4) a bill enacting severe penalties against any one infringing the liberty of professional syndicates.

On the same day the Senate, notwithstanding the strenuous opposition of the Government, passed by 159 to 82 votes a bill brought in by M. Trarieux, formerly Minister of Justice in M. Ribot's Cabinet, prohibiting railway servants and others employed in State manufactories to join Trade Unions or to take part in strikes. The opposing views of the two Chambers were thus put in the plainest manner, and for the moment, at least, the act passed by the Senate was relegated to the archives of that body; for the Ministry, far from restricting the rights of the working classes, did all in its power, by words at least, to extend them. In this spirit, on a suggestion made by the Labour Commission to the Chambers to impose a tax upon foreign workmen, M. Berthelot strongly opposed the idea, and, carrying with him the majority of the Assembly, placed on record that it was advisable to facilitate the naturalisation of foreign workmen.

In the debates arising out of the conventions with the various railway companies, signed in 1883 by M. Raynal, the Ministry observed an attitude of strict neutrality. It was on this question that the Ribot Cabinet had been overthrown, and,

although the Committee of Inquiry had failed to discover grounds for an impeachment for high treason, it was necessary for the Chamber to come to some decision on the points involved. After one day devoted to M. Raynal's apology, and another to M. Camille Pelletan's attack, the Chamber decided by 371 to 73 votes that the charges against M. Raynal for offences committed in the discharge of his duties as Minister of Public Works were not proved. This verdict of non-culpability was regarded as a victory for the Moderates, who for a length of time had been charged by the Radicals with complicity in the signature of the "disgraceful conventions" by which the railway bondholders were to profit at the expense of the State taxpayers.

It was, however, easier to promise to throw light upon the financial scandals of previous years, and to mete out justice to all concerned, than to carry out these intentions. The Keeper of the Seals, M. Ricard, in his eagerness to arrive at some definite action, thought it his duty to suspend suddenly the examining judge, M. Rempier, to whom had been referred the matter of southern railways, of which the functionaries were charged with corrupt acts. This intervention of the Executive in a judicial matter under consideration was not only a violation of the doctrine of the separation of constitutional powers, but raised also personal questions of great delicacy. The displaced magistrate addressed a letter of protest to the Ministry, and the question was raised in the Senate. M. Ricard defended himself very lamely, and declared that M. Rempier's letter had not reached him. The Senate, thereupon, voted an order of the day regretting the irregularities which had occurred.

In the Chamber, however, the Government was more successful (Feb. 13) in its effort to obtain the approval of that body. Upon this the letter, of which M. Ricard had denied the existence, was published in the newspapers, and a second interpellation raised in the Senate (Feb. 15), and by 158 to 66 votes an order of the day was passed confirming that previously voted, and the struggle between the Senate and the Government fairly commenced.

A Cabinet Council was forthwith summoned, but no resolution was arrived at, the ministers adjourning until the following day, when it became apparent that the only alternative to a conflict with the Senate was immediate resignation. A deputation of the senators of the Democratic Left waited on M. Bourgeois, the President of the Council, urging him not to retire, and comforted by this mark of adhesion the Cabinet unanimously decided to remain in office. A communication was at once made to the newspapers to the effect that the recent votes of the Chamber had made it clear to the Cabinet that it was their duty to pursue a policy which had merited these marks of confidence.

The ministerial tactics were skilfully conceived. The

Radical party was made to appear as the only one capable of throwing light upon the late financial scandals, whilst the Cabinet was to be seen protecting in the name of public morality the Chamber from the Senate. The principle of universal suffrage against a restricted franchise was thus raised. One of the youngest ministers, M. Doumer, who held the portfolio of Finance, undertook to explain this policy to the public. An opportunity was promptly found at a banquet at Auxerre (Feb. 16), when in reply to a carefully prepared invitation M. Doumer announced the intention of the Cabinet to resist to the uttermost the usurpations of the Senate. Meanwhile the Government was busily engaged in drawing up its programme, which embraced a number of financial and administrative reforms which were in some respects of a drastic character. M. Combes, Minister of Public Instruction, explained the views of the Cabinet on the reorganisation of the Superior Council of Education, and proposed to limit very considerably the powers of the Senate of the University created by the law of 1880.

The Minister of War, M. Cavaignac, promised to carry into execution the often discussed proposal of a colonial army, and with this object he began by breaking up the 19th Army Corps, stationed in Algeria, and reviving the old regiments which had done more than any others in conquering that possession. The Minister of Marine, M. Lockroy, when in Opposition had unsparingly denounced the despotic rule of the admirals attached to the Ministry. He had carried a resolution for the appointment of a mixed commission of inquiry, composed of deputies, senators, and functionaries. Once installed in office M. Lockroy refused to communicate to this body the documents necessary for their information; he despatched naval officers to the chief ports to receive the members of the Committee; and having thundered against nepotism as one of the worst ills of the French Navy, he created a Higher School of Naval Warfare, wholly composed of commanders, professors and pupils, whose chief merit was the favour of the minister.

M. Doumer, the Minister of Finance, was above all the chief exponent of the ministerial Radicalism, and his programme of fiscal reform had at least the credit of boldness and originality. To the existing taxes he proposed to add a tax on the "global" income of every one, calculated on the receipts and gains of every individual, whether as member of a family or as a single man. The amount of a man's income was to be arrived at by one or other of two methods—personal declaration or assessment by a special body. Every taxpayer would have to make his declaration upon oath, but as it was foreseen that the majority of the taxpayers would be tempted to conceal the actual state of their monetary affairs a special commission composed of municipal councillors would verify to the best of their ability the declaration of each citizen. This proposal shocked everybody except its author. Among the other clauses

of the bill was one which exempted all persons having an annual income of less than 2500 frs. (100*l.*), but this sum, which represented actual ease and comfort in villages in the south of France, would barely provide the necessaries of life for a family in Paris. The country folk at the same time saw with dismay that they were to be taxed by their political enemies, whilst the Parisians declared that the new tax would draw from their pockets an additional 100,000,000 frs. for the public Treasury.

Having launched these measures, which were essentially Radical in intention, the Ministry looked to the Chamber for support in their conflict with the Senate. The campaign was opened by M. Chaudey (Feb. 20), who called upon the Minister of Justice to reconcile the conflicting statements he had made in the Senate and the Chamber. The Extreme Left thought to help M. Ricard by noisy obstruction. M. Poincaré's attempts to speak were drowned in the hubbub, and the Republicans retorted in a like manner when M. Ricard attempted to obtain a hearing. An order of the day, approving the determination of the Government to *de vouloir faire lumière*, was voted. To this unintelligible resolution the Senate replied by protesting against the policy of provocation adopted by the Ministry, and at a later hour M. F. Chauveau, on taking over the presidency of the Left Centre group in the Senate, announced that Jacobin measures, attacks upon liberty and justice, and financial adventures would find an insurmountable barrier in the Senate.

On the following Sunday (Feb. 23) M. Bourgeois and his colleague, M. Mesureur, were invited to a banquet at Reims, and the latter took occasion in his speech to say that the Government had certain Socialist tendencies. The expression took many by surprise, and M. Bourgeois himself tried at once to extenuate its importance, but on the following day at St. Mandé, in the suburbs of Paris, the President of the Council listened without protest to a bitter attack upon the Senate, notwithstanding the presence in the chair of the senator M. Emmanuel Arago.

These tactics, however, were of little avail, for on the selection of members to sit on the Budget Committee the nominees of the Government were generally unsuccessful, and eight only out of thirty-three were elected who were favourable to the proposed income tax. M. Cochéry, on taking his seat as chairman of the committee, declared the intention of the majority, that, while ready to adopt fiscal reforms in a spirit of equity, they were determined to put aside everything which threatened the equality of all citizens before the tax-gatherer, and to hold fast to that primordial maxim of the revolution, that every one was obliged to contribute to the public revenue in proportion to his ability.

Notwithstanding the bold front assumed by the Ministry,

it was obvious that they were conscious of the check thus given. Taking advantage of the debate on the Workmen's Accidents Law, M. Mesureur appeared in the Senate and endeavoured to soften the expressions of his Reims speech, explaining that the word socialism was a vague term synonymous with progress and liberty. At the same time M. Doumer, before the Budget Committee, admitted that it was quite practicable to disconnect the proposed income tax from the rest of the Budget, a concession by which at least a respite might be obtained.

In the interval the Ministry determined to attempt a popular crusade against the Senate. The President of the Council started on a journey to the south, in company with the President of the Republic, with the ostensible object of celebrating the anniversary of the union of Nice to France. At Lyons (Mar. 2), where the first halt was made, the crowds seemed more eager to shout "Vive Bourgeois! A bas le Sénat!" than to welcome either the republic or its chief magistrate. At Marseilles a few days later the excitement almost led to outrage. But after a few hours' reflection a reaction set in; and this barefaced attempt to force a plebiscite in the streets was generally condemned. The Government, moreover, were not long in being made to feel in the Chamber the effect of their false tactics, for difficulties were thrown in their way at every step, whether for obtaining a vote on account of the expenses of the exposition of 1900 or a vote of confidence in their Madagascar policy.

But the final struggle could not be indefinitely postponed, and it was over a resolution of the Budget Committee that issue was joined. It ran thus: "The Chamber, putting aside every plan based upon a declaration of gross revenue (*revenu global*) or upon vexatious inquiries, invites the Government to remodel on some other plan their reform of direct taxation."

The debate extended over an entire week (Mar. 21-27), and gave rise to several exciting incidents. While the Minister of Finance was explaining his proposals the members of the Extreme Left thought fit to shift into the seats usually occupied by the Centre, and thence they showered their plaudits upon M. Doumer, who in point of fact was almost the only vigorous supporter of his own proposal. On the other hand, it was the butt of the sharpest attack by MM. Léon Say, Turrel, Méline, Delombre, and Cochéry, and the defeat of the Government seemed inevitable. But on coming to the vote the Ministry appealed to the Chamber to support an order of the day, moved by M. Dron. "The Chamber, relying on the Government, is determined to substitute a general income tax for the existing personal and house tax, and for the taxes on doors and windows, whilst expressing no opinion on the scheme proposed, passes to the order of the day." This resolution, which was certainly wanting in clearness, was nevertheless carried by 284 to 277

votes, in which were included the members of the Cabinet voting for themselves and the colonial deputies, whose electors were not in the least interested in the question involved.

This Pyrrhus victory, however, accentuated the difficulties into which the Ministry had been suddenly thrown by the diplomatic trouble caused by M. Berthelot's impulsiveness. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, apparently without consultation with his colleagues, had written and delivered a despatch to the British Ambassador. The Cabinet at once recognised the inexpediency of the act. M. Berthelot was suddenly taken ill, and advised to withdraw for a time from active work, but to the surprise of every one, including his colleagues, he insisted upon retiring altogether. The threatened crisis was averted by M. Bourgeois temporarily taking over the portfolio of Foreign Affairs until another Radical was found for the post, and M. Sarrien became Minister of the Interior.

These changes decided the Right to commence an attack upon the Ministry, and an interpellation was presented (Apr. 2) by M. Delafosse, and eagerly supported by the Government Republicans MM. André Lebon and Francis Charmes. M. Goblet, whilst recognising that mistakes had been made, urged that the object of this constant harping upon what patriotism would have endeavoured to put out of sight, was to prevent the Cabinet remaining in office during the approaching municipal elections. These arguments had their effect, for the Government not only obtained a vote of confidence by 309 to 213 votes, but at the same sitting obtained also their vote on account of the expenses in Madagascar, where an insurrection had broken out in the Imerina district. By an illogical contradiction the Chamber limited the application of the vote till April 30, and thereupon, notwithstanding the efforts of the Right, determined by 329 to 251 votes to adjourn until the middle of May.

This decision was in a way intended as a rebuff to the Senate, which thus would have no time to come to a decision on the Madagascar vote. The Upper Chamber might wish to revise the sums voted by the deputies, or to modify some paragraph in the bill, but the latter would be no longer in session, as anticipated by the Constitution, and in accordance with parliamentary usage. The Senate at once decided to take its own line of action, and summoned the Government to explain its foreign policy. In vain M. Bourgeois attempted to obtain an adjournment of the debate, but, by 155 to 85 votes, this resolution was passed: "The Senate, holding the explanation of the Government insufficient, declares its want of confidence in the Ministry;" then, declining to vote off-hand the credits on account of Madagascar, adjourned for three weeks.

This adverse vote, however, only served to make the Ministry more stubborn in their determination to withstand the pretensions of the Senate. The President of the Republic, on being informed of the decision of the Cabinet, raised no objec-

tion, and the press, as might have been expected, viewed the quarrel wholly as partisans. The question of referring the matter to the verdict of the electors was discussed by the Cabinet, but it was obvious that the Senate, to whom alone by the Constitution the right of dissolving the Chamber belonged, would not accede in such a matter to a hostile Ministry.

The departmental assemblies (*conseils généraux*) found abundant subject for debate in M. Doumer's taxation schemes, and an overwhelming proportion of these bodies pronounced against a tax, of which each one's quota was to be fixed upon the declaration of the taxpayer, or the valuation of his neighbour. Throughout the country it might be said that the principal feature of the ministerial programme was absolutely rejected.

While ministers were bearing as best they could the check thus given to their policy, the President of the Republic was gathering popularity and acclamations on his own account. Without notice, and unaccompanied by any but his personal staff, M. Faure suddenly left Paris (Apr. 15) and arrived at St. Mihiel, where he spent several days carefully inspecting the fortresses and entrenched camps on the Eastern frontier, and at the same time taking the opportunity of encouraging the patriotism of the Lorrainers.

The final struggle between the Senate and the Ministry, however, could not be indefinitely postponed, and on the day chosen by the former (Apr. 21) the quarrel was taken up once more. After a short perfunctory debate, the senators intimated their determination not to take into consideration the vote proposed for Madagascar, nor to confide the millions demanded to a Ministry in which it had not confidence. The expenditure in dispute not being of a nature which a Ministry could incur without special sanction, the Cabinet found itself forced to choose between resignation and a *coup d'état*. A strong meeting of the Cabinet, under the presidency of M. Bourgeois, was held. Several members, the least conspicuous and important, were in favour of retaining their portfolios. M. Bourgeois, relying upon his youth and the future, refused to lend himself to so factious a course, and insisted upon the resignation of the Cabinet. At the same time he found the way to resign with some show of dignity. The Chamber was called together, and an order of the day, framed by M. Ricard, deputy for the Côte d'or, was adopted by a narrow majority. It declared that the Chamber would give its support to no Ministry which was not determined to uphold public morality and to reform taxation in a democratic sense.

Having thus carried its point, the Senate showed no further reluctance in voting (Apr. 24) the Madagascar expenditure, but at the same sitting a proposal of two Radical senators for a general revision of the constitution, in view of the recent action of the Senate, was summarily rejected by 214 to 33 votes.

The ministerial crisis, nevertheless, practically turned upon the dispute between the two Chambers of the Legislature, with a President who was either neutral or undecided. The Socialists, whose plans the fall of the Bourgeois Ministry altogether upset, endeavoured to make some impression upon the President by getting up street disorders, of which the police made short work. A large meeting, however, was held at the Tivoli, Vauxhall, where Radicals such as Camille Pelletan appeared side by side with Vaillant the Blanquist and Jaurès the Collectivist, but its practical results were wholly insensible. Meanwhile, acting on the advice of M. Peytral to form a coalition Cabinet, in which the Radicals had the upper hand, the President sent for M. Sarrien and entrusted to him the task. M. Sarrien's appeals, however, to his former colleagues were the reverse of encouraging, and with very little hesitation he abandoned the attempt. M. Méline, to the surprise of many, was then sent for, and still greater surprise was expressed when it became known through the *Journal Officiel* (Apr. 30) that the new Cabinet had been completed as follows: M. Méline, President of the Council and Minister of Agriculture; M. Hanotaux, Foreign Affairs; l'Amiral Besnard, Navy; General Billot, Army; M. Barthou, Home Office; M. Cochéry, Finance; M. Rambaud, Public Instruction; M. Turrel, Public Works; M. H. Boucher, Commerce; and M. André Lebon, the Colonies.

On the same day the Cabinet ministers presented themselves in both Chambers and read their programme promising fiscal reforms, old age pensions, and the organisation of local committees to advise with the Government on the needs of agriculture. This declaration was at once met by an interpellation by M. Goblet, who took exception to the Cabinet as having been unconstitutionally placed in office, as the Chamber had already expressed its confidence in M. Bourgeois. Such a step was, therefore, the recognition of the rights of restricted over universal suffrage. M. Deschanel, on the other hand, expressed his unfeigned satisfaction at the disappearance of a Ministry which for the past five months had been carrying on "*un véritable chantage moral*." These words naturally produced an explosion of feeling in various parts of the Chamber, but at length order was sufficiently restored to permit M. Méline to explain his policy, and M. Bourgeois to pronounce the funeral oration of his Government. In order to bring the debate to a close, and to enable the Chamber to preserve at once the sense of its own dignity and the new Cabinet, MM. Bozerian and Deltpeuch drafted a resolution, of which the subtlety was the chief quality: "The Chamber, affirming the sovereignty of universal suffrage and approving the programme of the Government, passes to the order of the day." For the first portion of this resolution there was absolute unanimity, but the second half only gathered 231 supporters against 196 opponents,

but in its complete form it was ultimately adopted by 299 to 256 votes.

A further adjournment for a month enabled the new Ministry to look round and take stock of the situation, whilst their Radical opponents broke up into discordant groups, some reproaching M. Bourgeois with having been wanting in energy, others urging him to start at once upon an aggressive campaign. Meanwhile the municipal elections were proceeding throughout the country, and Paris, for the first time, was treated similarly to the provinces. These municipal elections, of which the mayor, his *adjoint*, and the councillors were the objects, aroused far more eager and personal ambition than the parliamentary elections, for the officials chosen were for four years the legal holders of all public authority. It was therefore not surprising that all parties showed the keenest interest in the success of their candidates, and in the south especially the antagonists resorted to the most indefensible means in order to attain their ends. This was especially the case at large centres like Nice, Toulouse, and Béziers, as well as scores of small villages, where corruption or violence was allowed to interfere with the freedom of election.

The Socialists had been especially active as well as astute, with the result that several seats were gained by their party—Marseilles, Narbonne, Lille and Roubaix being the most important; whilst at Bordeaux, by a coalition of the Royalists and Collectivists, the partisans of M. Raynal were left in a minority. At the close of the contest it was found that of 362 districts (*chefs lieux d'arrondissement*) the Radicals had been successful in about 100, the Socialist Radicals and Conservatives each in about 20, and the Revolutionary Socialists in 9; the remainder had been carried by the Ministerialist Republicans. In Paris the more advanced opinions were more strongly marked, the Municipal Council, which contained most of its previous members, being made up of 12 Republicans, 4 Independents, 3 Rallied, 33 Socialist Radicals, 19 Revolutionary Socialists, and 9 avowed Monarchists. This proportion was subsequently slightly disturbed, as M. André Berthelot (son of the ex-Minister), M. Pierre Baudin, and several other Socialist Radicals, joined hands with the Revolutionary Socialists. A few days later at a banquet (May 30) given in honour of the Socialist triumph M. Millerand caused no little surprise by announcing his adhesion to the Revolutionary party, declaring that in order to be a Socialist it was necessary to be a Collectivist also. The still titular chief of the Radical party, M. Bourgeois, regardless of a possible schism among his followers, at once took up this challenge, and in a speech at Melun (May 31) boldly declared his dissent from Collectivism, which he described as a German importation.

The differences amongst the Monarchists were almost as

keen. Some young Orleanists, recalling the *début* of Napoleon III. in political life, were anxious to put forward the Duc d'Orléans as a candidate for Cholet (Seine and Marne), but the managing committee of the party decided that a "son of France" should not parody a Bonaparte, and the Duc d'Audiffret Pasquier undertook to communicate this view to the prince, who curtly replied that the committee should wait to be consulted before expressing its opinion. M. d'Audiffret Pasquier, annoyed by this reproof, at once resigned his place on the committee, which, guided by MM. Buffet, de Broglie, and d'Haussonville, was accused by its supporters of being wanting in energy. In truth the Monarchy, abandoned by the Catholics, repudiated by the Pope, was in great straits, and could only hope to recover its position by the blunders of its adversaries.

The Ministry was scarcely installed in office when its existence was threatened by the unpopularity of its proposed fiscal changes. The proposal to levy a tax upon French and foreign stocks (*rentes*) aroused a widespread opposition, especially as foreign stocks were already taxed at a very high rate, so that the dividends on French stock would alone bear the brunt of the new tax. The friends of the fundholders urged that the reduction made in the rates of interest by the conversion of Government stocks had already caused a serious diminution of income to the holders, and that if the proposed tax were adopted future conversions would be impossible. The Moderate Republicans, through the press, made it clear that they would not support the ministerial proposal, which was therefore silently dropped, and as an alternative a Government monopoly of alcohol was put forward. The suggestion gave rise to much discussion, and M. Alglave, a professor of law, defended the idea, in which he was warmly supported by the Anti-Alcoholic League, but it was soon manifest that the Temperance bodies were not likely to have as much influence in France as they showed elsewhere.

The tactics of the Opposition, however, were to harass the new Ministry by repeated interpellations rather than to pursue any special line. Each sitting produced fresh skirmishes, Radicals and Socialists separately or together raising objections at every moment. During the debate on the disorders which had occurred at Père La Chaise (June 6) the cry of "Vive le Commune" was heard for the first time in the Chamber. On another day the presence of the Bishop of Angers at the first communion of an Orleans prince was made the subject of a scarcely less violent explosion, but on this occasion the Minister of the Interior was able to retort that the Radical Ministry had conferred upon Prince Henri d'Orléans the riband of the Legion of Honour. The last of these irregular debates was raised by M. Jaurès, who wished to censure the Government for having displaced the Prefect of the Tarn in favour of one of its own supporters. The minister,

M. Barthou, on this occasion defended himself and the rights of the Executive, and obtained the support of the Chamber by 318 to 238 votes.

The daily increasing strength of the Ministry was seen also in the Senate, where, notwithstanding the opposition of MM. Buffet and Lamarzelle, the proposal to hold a universal exhibition in 1900 was adopted, and at a later date a bill for creating local universities was also passed.

Outside these sterile discussions the Chamber occupied itself with bills for regulating the employment of women and children in factories, for the annexation of Madagascar, and the imposition of direct taxation. The Socialists were not slow to take advantage of every opportunity to air their theories, but the Chamber, by the crushing majority of 430 to 34 votes, refused to accept the proposal of M. Jules Guesde, supported by M. Vaillant, that the working day in factories should be fixed at eight hours and in mines at six, alike for men and women.

The Madagascar debate was rendered more interesting by the fact that, whereas the scheme for the annexation of the island had been prepared by the Radical Ministry, M. Hanotaux, the present Minister of Foreign Affairs, had previously supported a protectorate. On this occasion he had to explain that the new treaty imposed upon the Queen of Madagascar by M. Laroche, the French Resident, had inaugurated a new order of things which it was necessary to regularise. Notwithstanding the naïve admission of the Colonial Minister as to the proceedings of the invaders, the Chamber adopted the ministerial proposal, which shortly afterwards was endorsed by the Senate, coupled with a declaration in favour of the immediate abolition of slavery.

The debates on the direct taxes, proposed by M. Cochéry, the Minister of Finance, were far more serious, for they involved a principle which the Chamber was not yet prepared to adopt. M. Rouvier, a former Premier, and one of the most acute financiers of the day, attacked (July 3) the idea of a tax upon the *rente* so vigorously that he brought over the majority to his views, and although the Chamber had not so far the courage of its opinion to negative the ministerial proposal absolutely, it found a way by which to render it inoperative, and at a later date (July 9) it negatived by 268 to 238 votes a proposal to put a tax upon erected buildings. This latter decision upset the equilibrium of the Budget, and left the minister with a deficit of 20,000,000 frs. This involved the withdrawal of the financial scheme as sanctioned by the Budget Committee, and on the motion of M. du Périer de Larsan the Chamber, by 312 to 143 votes, "determined to persevere in the reform of direct taxation, and decided to resume in an extraordinary session the proposal under discussion." The year, however, was destined to close without either the reform of taxation or even

the Budget itself being voted. The Chamber, exhausted by its fruitless efforts, decided to adjourn, leaving to the Government the right to call an extraordinary session, but at the same time showing that the new Ministry could not obtain from its friends what the Radical Ministry had obtained from its adversaries, the passing of the Budget within the necessary time to make its taxes applicable to the current year. The responsibility and the reproach fell rather upon the Chamber than upon the Ministry.

The autumn sessions of the Provincial Councils were consequently less eager on the subject of the income tax than those held in the spring. The Government in the interval had done little or nothing to provoke discussion, and in the great majority of centres a discreet silence was observed. On the other hand the proposal to establish a Government monopoly of alcohol gave rise to considerable discussion, which among all classes was distinctly favourable to the idea. On one point there was even greater unanimity, for from all sides came requests to the Government to convey their respectful greetings to the Czar on the occasion of his promised visit. This topic so overshadowed all others, even at this distance of time (Aug. 17), that the Radicals had considerable difficulty in finding support for their protests against the alliance of the Ministry with the Right and the Church, or in favour of a greater centralisation of the provincial bodies, or of the postponement of the summer sessions until October. One Council alone appealed for the re-establishment of the *scrutin de liste* in parliamentary elections, and one other for a repeal of the law against the Anarchists.

The moment was, however, hardly opportune to give effect to this last-named request, for the schism between the Socialist groups had suddenly widened. The quarrel lay between those who, properly constituted, sought to gain entrance to Parliament and the Anarchists, who repudiated any appeal to existing constitutional methods. The struggle had commenced at the Socialist Congress in London, where the French deputation had split into two bodies of about equal numerical importance. One group, headed by MM. Allemane, Sembat, and Vaillant, wished to receive as delegates all who, whatever their views, presented themselves as representing trade unions; the other group, of which MM. Millerand, Jules Guesde, Hérault Richard, and Viviani were the chiefs, declared that they would have no dealings of any sort with avowed Anarchists. At the close of the congress the rival groups returned to Paris to hold innumerable meetings, and mutually to excommunicate each other. M. Jaurès appeared at length in the character of peacemaker, and attempted to show that Anarchy was going through a crisis bringing it nearer to Socialism, which on its part had never repudiated its revolutionary basis. At the same time onlookers could not but recognise the fact that Socialists were steadily recruiting

their ranks from among the chief leaders of parliamentary Radicalism.

M. Bourgeois did not shut his eyes to this important evolution of his party, and sought to make good the losses in his own ranks by drawing towards him the more advanced among the Ministerial Republicans. The title of Progressists, which the Gambettists had at one time claimed for themselves, was that which best suited M. Bourgeois' purpose, and consequently in the course of an energetic campaign he endeavoured to gather round the Radicals Republican reformers of all shades. The principal points of his programme were the rights of individual liberty, of private property, and of social solidarity, and the need of some slight revision of the constitution.

The Moderate Republicans, who had managed to get possession of the Government, were not behindhand in meeting the challenge, and at once retorted by an equally active appeal to the electorate body. M. Méline at St. Dié and at Epinal, M. Waldeck-Rousseau at St. Mandé, and M. Poincaré at Commercy, unhesitatingly exposed the weak points of parliamentary government, and explained the remedies they were willing to apply. "The right to dissolve should be insisted upon more frequently," said M. Waldeck-Rousseau; "The Chamber is too large, the session too long," said M. Poincaré; and so on; but these remedies were all too heroic, and it was most unlikely that the Chamber would of its own motion willingly or spontaneously derogate from the position it occupied. At any rate attention was soon called away from these questions, and others, more or less theoretical, were started, and engaged for a moment the public mind. The representation of minorities in parliamentary and municipal bodies after a few days' discussion gave place to the question of bull-fighting, which the Government had in vain attempted to suppress, and, what was worse, had failed to protect its agents when attempting to carry out their instructions. The Socialist Congress, however, which was to have been held at the frontier town of Wissenbach, was promptly dealt with, and Messrs. Bebel and Bueb, the German spokesmen, and members of the Reichstag, were given to understand that their presence on French soil could be dispensed with.

The Madagascar question was also a fertile source of discussion during the autumn months. M. Laroche, the Resident-General, was charged with being altogether in the hands of the Methodists, and with favouring British subjects to the detriment of French colonists; and, worst of all, he had granted a concession for a railway from Tamatave to Tananarivo to M. de Coriolis, a native of Mauritius, and assumed consequently to be an Englishman. A very superficial inquiry showed how little ground there was for these charges, but it also transpired that M. Laroche had quarrelled with his Secretary-General, M. Paul Bourde, whose influence with the Paris press was

sufficient to make his chief's position untenable. The Ministry found it more easy to bow before the storm. M. Laroche was recalled and his place taken by General Gallieni, who had achieved considerable reputation by his vigorous policy in Tonkin and in the Soudan.

Every question, however, of domestic or colonial interest was momentarily pushed aside by the preparations made for the splendid reception to be offered to the Czar and Czarina at Cherbourg, Paris and Châlons. Probably no state event had stirred so deeply the feelings of all classes of French natives. At Cherbourg, on their arrival, their Russian Majesties passed in review (Oct. 5) the French fleet under conditions which must have taxed the French sailors to the utmost. On the following day their entry into Paris, decked in its brightest colours, was a scene of spontaneous enthusiasm rather than of formal ceremonial. During their three days' stay, Paris observed a holiday. The streets were thronged with visitors from the provinces and all parts of Europe, and the reception given to the Czar, whilst marked by enthusiasm and deference, was not marred by obsequiousness. The critics, however, found in the freaks of the "*protocole*" abundant material for their sarcasm; and in truth the master of the ceremonies, who took upon himself the regulation of the imperial *fêtes*, was guilty of several purposeless blunders, not the least of which was the striking out of the official lists the names of the senators and deputies elected to represent Parliament. In this particular case the Czar himself repaired the mistake by paying personal visits to the Presidents of the two Chambers, M. Loubet and M. Brisson. The attitude of the Municipal Council was the object of much curiosity, for in that body at the recent elections the Revolutionary element had been strongly reinforced. After a slight hesitation, and with feeble protests on the part of one or two irreconcilables, the council decided to follow the current of public opinion and to welcome cordially the guest of France by a magnificent *fête* at the Hotel de Ville.

The closing scene of the Czar's visit was disturbed by an unpleasant but unavoidable incident. It had been arranged that a grand review of the French Army should be held (Oct. 9) at Châlons, and at this a large number of those persons who had remained in Paris up to the last moment desired to be present. Upwards of 30,000 people made their way to the terminus of the Eastern Railway and insisted upon being conveyed to Châlons. The railway officials, threatened by the would-be passengers, lost their heads and struck work. The police at length took possession of the station and endeavoured, but with little success, to establish order. Throughout the whole of the night chaos reigned over one of the most essential lines of communication and rendered it absolutely useless. The commentaries to which this incident gave rise went far to mar the effect of the official congratulations exchanged between

the Governments of Russia and France, for it was made patent that the railway company upon which in the event of a Franco-German war would fall the brunt of the first concentration had egregiously failed, although notice had been given weeks previously of the task before it. Moreover, great as was the crowd, it fell far short of the numbers with which other railways had to deal on the occasion of popular races at Longchamps or Chantilly.

With the departure of the Czar, the question of the real nature of the bonds uniting the two countries was warmly discussed; and it was vaguely suggested that a complete understanding was farther off in M. Hanotaux's second Ministry than it had appeared to be during his first tenure of the seals of the Foreign Office, for then the reality of a formal alliance had been affirmed, not in actual words, but by the Prime Minister's (M. Ribot) historic nod. The Monarchist and Socialist press, therefore, lost no time in upbraiding M. Hanotaux with having prevented the alliance being publicly announced if it really existed, hinting at the same time that he had failed to obtain the Czar's signature. M. Hanotaux, however, maintained a discreet silence, avoiding everything in the way of explanation or self-defence.

The Minister of the Interior was less able to remain quiet under a charge which concerned his personal honour rather than his administrative efficiency. M. Cornudet, deputy for La Creuse, and political editor of *La Lanterne*, had brought a charge against M. Barthou, the deputy for the Basses Alpes, of having taken advantage of his official position to speculate on the Bourse. M. Barthou insisted upon having the matter referred to a "jury of honour" composed of six friends and six extreme political opponents, amongst whom was M. Henri Rochefort, who had been one of the leaders of the crusade. The jury, nevertheless, found unanimously that the charges against M. Barthou were wholly without foundation, and that his honourable character was unimpaired. His supporters took advantage of this incident to invite the young minister to a public reception (Oct. 18) at Oloron, where he had the opportunity of making a brilliant party speech. He refuted the charges brought against the Ministry of being the friends and allies of the Conservatives and Clerical Monarchists, but he asserted that the time had arrived to admit to the ranks of the Republican party all who frankly adopted such fundamental ideas as universal obligatory military service and gratuitous lay instruction.

Meanwhile the bitterest foes of the Ministry, the Socialists, had had to face an unpleasant surprise. The glass workers at Carmaux, who had long been the objects of special attentions on the part of the Socialist leaders, had decided to establish works of their own at Albi, and to manage them on strictly Socialistic principles. The opening of the new works was to

be marked by a popular *fête*, while M. Jaurès went to Carmaux to explain to his constituents there the part he had played in starting these rival works. His former supporters, however, looked at the matter from a very different standpoint, and M. Jaurès' reception was so tempestuous that it needed all the tact of the Prefect, M. Alapetite, and all the strength of the gendarmerie, to protect the deputy from his exasperated friends. It was not to be expected that M. Jaurès would be satisfied with his treatment, and he naturally accused the authorities of having stirred up the demonstration against him. As soon as the session reopened (Oct. 27) he gave notice of an interpellation on the Carmaux incident. The Ministry were by no means unwilling to take the opinion of the Chamber on their vigorous action, and after a short debate (Nov. 5) a vote approving the conduct of the Minister of the Interior was passed by 308 to 222 votes. This was one of the heaviest divisions on record, and the Government majority was made up of the 234 deputies of the Left and a number of Radicals usually voting with the Opposition.

A few days before (Nov. 3) M. Hanotaux had also succeeded in obtaining a favourable endorsement of his foreign policy. Questioned by M. Jaurès and the Comte de Mun on the attitude of France towards the Armenians, he had been also challenged to say distinctly whether or not a formal treaty existed with Russia. In his reply, without overstepping the limits of professional discretion, he managed to avoid offending the constitutional susceptibilities of the Chamber. By 402 to 90 votes, the confidence of his colleagues in his policy was expressed; and on the same day an attempt to raise a debate in the Senate upon the affairs of Madagascar was summarily closed, on the advice of the Minister for the Colonies.

Reduced in Parliament to such slender proportions as to offer no temptations for ministerial attention, the Monarchists lost no occasion of keeping themselves before the public. The marriage of the Duc d'Orléans (Nov. 5) with an Austrian archduchess caused no little commotion among the leaders of the Royalist party. Pilgrimages to Brussels, where the royal couple were to pass a part of their honeymoon, were the order of the day; whilst on the day of the wedding a deputation representing the royalist ladies of France had offered a golden crown to the bride. This presentation drew from the archduchess a short speech, which in its turn gave rise to a little diplomatic breeze. The French Government thought fit to take offence at the archduchess' plain speaking, which was thereupon officially disavowed; whilst Belgium followed by forbidding by anticipation any expressions with which the adjoining friendly republic might reasonably find fault. Moreover, as one pretender seldom takes the field without arousing the activity of his rivals, Prince Victor Napoleon thought the moment opportune to proclaim to his followers that he maintained all his rights;

whilst the Spanish Bourbon prince, the Duc d'Anjou, revived an old lawsuit originally commenced in 1886 by Don Carlos against the Comte de Paris to restrain the latter from using the arms of France without a label.

The real difficulties of the Government arose not so much from the strength of its adversaries as from the looseness of discipline observed in the ranks of its supporters in the Chamber. The most pressing business was to pass the budget of the year. The Radical Cabinet twelve months previously had managed to proclaim a truce of parties, and in a few weeks in face of a hostile majority had succeeded in carrying its financial proposals. If the Moderates had only displayed as great determination to support their leaders as the Radicals had shown on that occasion there would have been difficulty in debating the budget, and the doubtful expedient of voting the "provisional twelfth" would have been obviated. But the deputies, even when persuaded to put aside a number of perfectly useless and frivolous debates, wasted many precious days in discussing purely academic questions arising out of the financial plans of the Government.

In this manner a debate on the administration of Algeria raised by M. Fleury-Ravarin, having been allowed to drag through two sittings, ended in inviting the Government to apply at once the decrees which in 1881 had attached the several public departments to their respective Ministries, thus annulling at a blow the whole authority of the Governor-General. Another sitting (Dec. 12) was occupied with the discussion of an interpellation by M. Mirman on the harshness of the Minister of Public Instruction in forbidding college professors forming unions, whilst he had allowed the Catholic Congress at Reims to be held without protest. But an even worse instance of useless obstruction was furnished by M. Trouillot, who occupied two days in debating a proposal to elect by universal suffrage the delegates who were to elect the senators at the approaching renewal of one-third of that body. The fact that there would be no time to put the law in force, even if passed, did not prevent its being discussed at length, and probably in order to annoy the Senate the Chamber adopted the resolutions by 297 to 238 votes.

These and similar proceedings, alike devoid of practical value and common sense, contributed to lower the prestige of the Chamber in public opinion. The course adopted in discussing the budget, moreover, had been so contrary to Parliamentary tradition that President Brisson was at length constrained to warn his colleagues of the dangers they were courting. This arose on the discussion of a clause of the budget to which several amendments were proposed and generally adopted by the majority, although they were distinct encroachments on the duties and prerogative of the Executive Government. In one way or another, however, the ministers of five of the chief departments managed to get their estimates voted, but by the

middle of the month (Dec. 17) it became evident that the discussion of the remaining services would have to be postponed, and with a sense of relief, by 478 to 55 votes, the vote for the "provisional twelfth" (representing a month's receipts and expenditure) was adopted. The deputies, in truth, wanted to be off to the provinces, where the senatorial elections were impending. M. Bourgeois and M. Doumer, the leaders of the Radicals, displayed as much energy as confidence in the results, assuring their followers that a brilliant triumph awaited them. M. Doumer indeed displayed so much ardour in the Radical cause, and in his journeyings from one centre to another excited such personal enthusiasm, as to arouse the susceptibilities of MM. Goblet and Bourgeois, the official chiefs of the Radical party. It was therefore with universal surprise, mingled at first with incredulity, that the nation received the announcement of the appointment of the "*Apôtre de l'impôt global*" to be Governor-General of Indo-China in succession to M. Rousseau. The negotiations had been quietly carried on between M. Doumer and M. André Lebon, the Colonial Minister, and their success was recognised as a serious blow to the Radical party, of which the full effect was to be felt in the senatorial elections.

II. ITALY.

The disaster of Amba-Alaghi hung like a pall over the opening year. Signor Crispi was promptly despatching reinforcements to General Baratieri, who in a short time found himself at the head of 20,000 men. Nevertheless the adjournment of Parliament for the holidays gave free currency to the wildest rumours. The approaching or immediate collapse of the Ministry was the most favourite topic. The resignation of Signor Calenda (Justice), Baron Blanc (Foreign Affairs) and General Mocenni (War) was announced, and it was stated that Baron Sonnino, who had hitherto been Minister of the Treasury, would undertake the direction of Foreign Affairs. The other posts were left vacant, the Prime Minister not wishing to take on new colleagues at a time when he was busy with the work of military reorganisation. One of the chief features of the new system was a remodelling of the recruiting stations, which were to be occupied with their own special work, and to be no longer responsible for the equipment of the reservists, whose mobilisation was thereby delayed.

The national pride received some solace in the news from Makallé, of which frontier post Commandant Galliano had made a heroic defence against overwhelming numbers. The military attachés of the various embassies, not excepting those of France and Russia, hastened to convey their congratulations to the Minister of War, and the young officer's promotion (Jan. 15) was received with general acclamation. Symptoms, however,

of the decline of Signor Crispi's popularity were not wanting. The Roman Press Association being called upon to elect a President in the place of the late Signor Bonghi, great pressure was brought to bear upon the members in favour of Signor Luzzato, editor of *La Tribuna*, who had recently resumed a friendly attitude towards the President of the Council. His candidature was warmly supported by the official and semi-official journals, but without effect, for the choice of the association fell upon Signor Romualdo Bonfadini. The annoyance caused to Signor Crispi by this election was so great that a few days later he refused to submit Signor Bonfadini's name to the King as one of the four Presidents of the Council of State in suitors' appeals. Elsewhere the leaders of the Extreme Left, such as Signors Imbriani and Cavallotti, were rousing, by means of speeches and articles, public feeling against the African policy of the Ministry. The official press replied by attacking the French Government, which it accused of furnishing Menelek with arms, and their charges were carried so far that at length the French ambassador, M. Billot, was obliged to deny them officially and categorically. The Vatican, naturally, did not escape the attacks of the official papers, and its goodwill towards France was held up as evidence of its hostility towards Italy and the Triple Alliance. Cardinal Rampolla was especially singled out for attack, and the substitution of Cardinal Luigi Galimberti loudly urged, on the plea that whilst Nuncio at Vienna he had persistently pursued the policy of connecting the interests of the Papacy with those of Central Europe.

After long and intricate proceedings the charges against Signor Giolitti, of having made away with public documents, were finally disposed of by the Court of Appeal, which decided that there was no cause for action. The charge was therefore abandoned, but all the documents connected with the case were impounded and deposited with the secret archives of the State.

It was, however, a far more difficult matter to stifle the cries of want and misery which arose from all sides by the burden of taxation. Serious outbreaks of starving men, unable to obtain work or bread, took place at spots as remote from each other as Cattanisetta, Pozzuoli, and Sala, near Biella in Piedmont, and in nearly every case the military were called upon to act, and usually left some corpses to mark their way of preserving order.

Meanwhile Signor Crispi's colleagues were far from sharing his confidence in a brighter future. The original telegrams had represented the taking of Makallé by Galliano as a victory for the Italians, but fuller information showed that the situation bore a very different complexion, and forthwith a quarrel arose within the Cabinet between the Prime Minister and his principal colleagues. Signors Sonnino, Ferraris and Saracco flatly

refused to give their approval to any fresh expenditure in Africa until Parliament was consulted. Signor Crispi, however, determined to take his own line, and so as to be able to meet the Chambers with the tidings of a glorious victory he undertook the sole direction of affairs. The telegrams exchanged between the War Department and the chief of the Expeditionary Corps were to be carefully revised by himself before being communicated to the newspapers. Negotiations were set on foot with Great Britain for permission for an Italian column to advance by way of Zeilah. The home regiments were stripped of their best men for service in Abyssinia, and General Baratieri, who hesitated at the difficulties of the enterprise he was ordered to undertake, was summarily displaced in favour of General Baldissera.

The latter, however, failed to arrive in time to save his master. On the day appointed for the meeting of Parliament (Mar. 1), when Signor Crispi hoped to announce the triumph of Italian arms, General Baratieri attacked the army of the Negus at Adowa, but had been completely defeated, leaving his guns and a third of his troops in the hands of the victors. With the remainder he had fallen rapidly back upon a position where he was free from immediate danger.

It was impossible to keep from public knowledge so terrible a disaster. Violent demonstrations against a continuance of the war were made at Parma, Turin, Milan, Ravenna, Palermo and other centres, and the departure of reinforcements for the seat of war was prevented by the populace. The Government was reduced to the expedient of sending off by night the troops urgently needed to strengthen the remains of the army at Massowah. Signor Crispi recognised the uselessness of longer clinging to office and his inability to face the storm of unpopularity raging against him. He, nevertheless, had the courage to appear in the Chamber (Mar. 5) to announce that his resignation had been placed in the King's hands. The Extreme Left wished to force the fallen minister to justify his conduct at once, but the President abruptly closed the sitting.

The formation of a new Ministry was no easy task, and for several days the communications between the King and his principal statesmen led to no results, owing chiefly to the personal feelings of the monarch with regard to the Abyssinian campaign. It was believed that his wish was to continue the policy of the Crispi Cabinet without Signor Crispi, with Signor Saracco as its figurehead. The attempt, however, came to nothing, as no leaders of weight would associate themselves with the programme, and finally (Feb. 9) King Humbert consented to the formation of a new Government with the programme of "Peace with honour." The Marchese di Rudini on this understanding succeeded in grouping round himself a number of statesmen, of whom the northern provinces furnished the majority. Retaining for himself the

Presidency of the Council and the portfolio of the Interior, he allotted the War Office to General Ricotti, who had acted throughout as the King's intermediary; the Marine to Signor B. Brin; the Treasury to Signor Colombo; Foreign Affairs to the Duc de Sermonetta; Grace and Justice to Signor Costa; Public Works to Signor Constantino Peruzzi; Finance to Signor A. Branca; Public Instruction to Signor Granturco; Agriculture and Commerce to Count Guicciardini; and Posts and Telegraphs to Signor Carmino.

The first act of the new Government was to promulgate a decree of amnesty (Mar. 14) for all political offences. The three Socialist deputies—Barbato, Bosco, and De Felice—so harshly treated by Signor Crispi, were at once set at liberty. The last-named at once hastened to Rome, where on his arrival he was greeted by an enthusiastic crowd, in whose shouts the name of the minister was freely mingled with his own.

On the reopening of Parliament (Mar. 17) the President of the Council read successively in the Chamber and the Senate the ministerial statement. { It was admitted that the Italian troops had been hurried into conflict with the enemy without the least preparation or foresight, that the shortcomings of the responsible officers would be carefully inquired into and rigorously punished. It further stated that on the very eve of its resignation (Mar. 8) the late Cabinet had sent pressing instructions to General Baldissera to conclude peace on the best terms for the safety of the Italian colony and for Italian honour, adding, { 'Were the Negus even to offer us Tigré we should decline it as a gift fatal to our true interests, and if by chance events should place us in a position to impose our own conditions of peace, on no account would we include amongst them the protectorate of Abyssinia.' } The minister then went on to ask for 140,000,000 lire to cover the expenditure up to the close of the current year; announced that the existing alliances with other Powers were maintained; and promised the immediate issue of a royal decree authorising Municipal Councils to elect their own mayors.

In the debate which ensued it became clear that the supporters of the late Cabinet had recovered their assurance, and Signor Crispi himself was present to defend his policy. Events soon transformed his neutrality into an attitude of active hostility to the Rudini Cabinet, which, although guiltless of the Adowa disaster, had shown too great readiness in throwing up the game; and these reproaches were redoubled when the intention of Great Britain to defend the Soudan became known. The Chamber, however, was not prepared to refuse the new Cabinet the credits it demanded; whilst the Senate, by 109 to 5 votes, by secret ballot adopted the financial proposals of the Government with an order of the day expressive of confidence in its intention to maintain the honour and interests of the country.

The monarchical feeling in the kingdom found decided satisfaction in the visit of the German Emperor, who, travelling from Genoa to Palermo and from Naples to Venice, practically visited the whole kingdom. The only incident of interest provoked by this triumphal progress through the peninsula was an unfortunate reference made by the Chief of the Consulta, replying to Baron Blanc, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in which the former spoke of the English alliance being assured to Italy. The accuracy of this statement having been challenged in the House of Commons, the British Under-Secretary had declared that no such treaty existed, and the Italian Cabinet found itself forced to explain, in a note inserted in the official gazette, that the word "alliance" as used by the Italian minister was intended only to indicate the long friendship and traditional sympathies between Italy and England.

The Cabinet, as soon as it found itself installed by the vote of confidence, forthwith took advantage of the Easter holidays to make numerous prefectoral changes, instructed Major Salza to open up negotiations with the Negus, and did its utmost to calm down the popular feeling which was ready at any moment to explode in rioting as at Sinaglia (Apr. 11) or in Municipal Council meetings as at Rome (Apr. 24), when Signor Soderini proposed that a service in memory of Italians who had died in Africa should be celebrated in the municipal church of Ara Coeli.

On the reassembling of the Chamber (Apr. 28), which it should be remembered had been elected in the most brutal Crispi fashion (see "*Annual Register*," 1895, p. 248), some lively discussions were raised upon the returns. A young Socialist named Bosco, who had not attained the legal age, was unseated, but two other deputies of the same type—Barbato and Felice—were confirmed. This ready acquiescence in the views of the Ministry seemed to suggest that there might be no need to appeal to the King to dissolve the existing Chamber. The publication of the Italian Green Book, with special reference to Abyssinian affairs, seemed to confirm this impression. The revelations of the proceedings of Signor Crispi's Government were damaging in the extreme. The telegrams from General Mocenni to the leaders of the expedition had disappeared from the War Office archives, but copies were obtained at Malta and Massowah, and were found to seriously compromise Signor Crispi, Baron Blanc, and General Mocenni, but in great measure relieved General Baratieri of the calumnious charges brought against him by the Crispi journals.

The debate on the African campaign was opened (May 6) by Signor Luzzato, a supporter of Signor Crispi, who urged that the soil watered by Italian blood should never be abandoned, and on the other hand the Radical Sacchi insisted that the members of the late Cabinet should be put on their trial. In the course of the discussion which followed, reference

was more than once made to "the authentic victory" which General Baratieri had been told was of the utmost necessity. Signor Crispi interrupted, "It is a lie"; to which the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Duc de Sermonetta, retorted that the original despatch had in truth disappeared from Rome, but that copies had been obtained at the various offices through which it had passed. The general course of the debate followed the lines indicated by the first speakers. The Crispinists were in favour of continuing the campaign, but the Extreme Left were ready to accept peace on any terms, provided that the actual responsibility of the late Cabinet for its blunders could be placed on record. The difficulty, however, was to obtain a vote of censure upon Signor Crispi and his colleagues from a Chamber of which a crushing majority had been elected by direct pressure from the former Ministry. On the other hand, the moment was not propitious for provoking a fresh ministerial crisis which could not result in the return of Signor Crispi to office. The Opposition leaders themselves realised the difficulties of the situation, and did their utmost to moderate the zeal of their more eager supporters by promising to attack the Government on their proposed abrogation of the special powers granted to the Sicilian Executive. At the same time the ministers in office let drop hints of their possible willingness to adopt the proposition of Signor Imbriani and his friends to bring the late ministers to the bar of public justice. By these and similar means a colourless order of the day, proposed by Signor Martini, was adopted (May 9), and the Ministry saved from a probable defeat.

This narrow escape forced upon Signor di Rudini the importance of obtaining some guarantee by which the King's Government might be carried on. The old Right, of which Signor di Rudini still remained the titular chief, was persuaded to come to an understanding to work in conjunction with a section of the Extreme Left, of which Signor Cavallotti was the spokesman. As an earnest of their intentions, the Government gave notice (May 11) of their purpose to bring in a bill for the relief of distress in Sardinia as soon as the parliamentary committee should have made its report. The general state of things throughout the island was deplorable. At Dorgali and at San Antioco the inhabitants were living on grass. At Aggino the crops had been seized by the tax-collectors. Poverty had engendered crime, and where men could not emigrate they had lived by violence. On the mainland the state of things was only a degree less serious. Distress, intensified by increased taxation, had led to a revival of brigandage in various parts of the country, and at the very gates of Rome the Prince George of Saxe-Meiningen had been stopped and relieved of his purse.

Notwithstanding these alarming symptoms the Minister of the Treasury remained an optimist, declaring his confidence that the future could be faced without fresh taxes. In the

debates on the budget which followed there was a striking contrast between the attitudes assumed by the past and present Ministers of the Treasury, the late minister insisting that new taxation was absolutely necessary, whilst the present holder was equally certain that it was alike impossible and needless to appeal to the people to make further sacrifices. The latter view would seem to have obtained the support of the reporter on the budget, Signor Cadolini, who showed that in the two preceding years the deficit had been reduced by 150,000,000 lire.

Thus far the trial of strength between the rival leaders of the Chamber had been postponed, but it was obvious that a pretext for joining issue was alone wanting. This was at length found on the question of appointing a commission of inquiry into an official scandal, arising out of the expenditure of the sums subscribed by the public for the relief of the sufferers by the earthquakes in Calabria. It was further alleged that from this source, and from the funds voted for the suppression of brigandage, money had been taken for electioneering purposes and for the subornation of certain organs of the press. A violent debate took place (May 31); the simple order of the day was proposed by Signor Borsarelli and accepted by the Government, but it was supplemented by the demand for a "call" of the House. Of the total number of 508, comprising the Chamber of Deputies, only 249 answered to their names. Of these, 16 took advantage of the privilege to declare that they had no opinion upon the question at issue, and 118 voted for the motion and 115 against it, thus giving the Ministry a nominal majority of three votes, or as the President of the Council remarked to a colleague, "three more votes than we wanted." This was interpreted to mean that the King was prepared at any moment to dissolve the Chamber, and the very suggestion of such a course was enough to throw the Crispinists into confusion.

The immediate result of this new state of feeling was at once seen in the proceedings of Parliament. The authority to place General Baratieri on his trial was granted (June 1) almost unanimously, and an amendment proposed by Signor Garavelti, to include in the indictment all others responsible, was negatived. At the next sitting a considerable body of Crispinists declared that their absence on the previous occasion had been inevitable, and that they would have supported the Government, in which case Signor Rudini's majority would have been nearly fifty.

With such a majority it would not have been difficult to carry on the government of the country, but within the Cabinet itself there were two groups, each with a distinct policy, one led by the President and the other by the Minister for War. The latter, however, effectually destroyed his power by insisting upon military reforms upon which the Senate looked

with disfavour. Unacceptable to the Court, and opposed by the majority of general officers in the Senate, it seemed as if the resignation of the responsible minister was the only possible solution. Nevertheless, the Senate, after some hesitation, allowed the proposed reforms to pass, and left the final decision with the Chamber, where the battle raged furiously (June 20) round the names of the Committee of Inquiry. In the end the minister had his way, and in eight out of the nine *bureaux* the majority were in favour of the proposed reforms. The budget, moreover, was sufficiently satisfactory to allay any immediate anxiety. The receipts were estimated in the year 1896-7 at 1,727,979,187 lire and the expenditure at 1,712,571,466 lire, so that on paper at all events the Finance Minister showed a surplus of 15,500,000 lire. Compared with the finances of preceding years, these figures showed a distinct improvement, and for the first time since the rupture of friendly fiscal relations with France the trade returns of Italy had returned to the former high-water mark.

Meanwhile public attention had been following the course of events in Abyssinia. Summoned before a Council of War at Asmara, General Baratieri had made a good defence, and was promptly acquitted, and Pope Leo XIII. had sent an autograph letter to King Menelek exhorting him to surrender the Italian prisoners in his hands. A few days later the Pontiff issued his encyclical *satis cognitum*, in which he urged the union of Christendom, and resumed his efforts to bring to a close the schism between the Catholics and Orthodox.

The financial difficulties of the situation were all this while growing more and more acute. The Minister of Finance submitted (June 29) to the Budget Committee a *Catenaccio* on white maize and other inferior cereals, hoping by means of a duty of 7l. 50c. per 100 kilos on maize flour to raise a sum of 3,000,000 lire to balance an equal loss upon the export duties of sulphur, which had weighed unfairly upon the Sicilian workmen. The question of railway reform was also taken up and supported in a way which seemed to point to a general taking over by the State of all lines worked by private companies, whilst on the motion of the Government to appoint a Civil High Commissioner for Sicily, Signor Cavallotti, a traditional opponent, warmly supported the proposal in the hopes that good might come of it for the sorely tried island.

Matters seemed to be progressing quietly in Parliament when an interpellation on its foreign policy in Eastern Europe and in Brazil took an unexpected turn, and everything was thrown into confusion. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Duc de Sermonetta, replying for the Government, in accordance with a custom becoming more and more frequent in Parliament, read his statement from a written paper. He was at once followed by Signor Rudini, who spoke without papers, and apparently not in accordance with the line agreed upon by the

Cabinet. The Minister for War, General Ricotti, at once hurried off to the King and tendered his resignation, along with his colleagues, Signors Peruzzi, Colombo, and Sermonetta. Thereupon Signor Rudini requested the Chamber to adjourn until the ministerial crisis should have been brought to a close in one way or another. Four days were spent in negotiations, but at length Signor Rudini was able to face the country with a reconstructed Cabinet. At the outset he had made a serious mistake in momentarily inviting General Morra di Livriano to take charge of the War Office. The expression of public feeling at the suggestion was sufficient to make Signor Rudini look elsewhere, and his definite choice fell upon General L. Pelloux, but not until the latter had obtained his conditions. These were proposals that the Army Estimates for the year should be raised from 234,000,000 lire to 246,000,000 lire, that the twelve *corps d'armée* should be provisionally maintained, and that the reduction in the effective strength of the Army should be restricted to 200 officers and 20,000 men. The other changes involved the substitution of Signor Luzzatti for Signor Colombo at the Treasury, and the promotion of Signor Sineo to the Posts and Telegraphs. Signor Prietti took over the department of Public Works, and the Marchese Visconti Venosta, who had quitted official life in 1867, once more consented to take charge of the portfolio of Foreign Affairs.

The new Cabinet was received with some hesitation by the Chamber. Signor Cavallotti, who had momentarily stood aloof from the Extreme Left, once more took his place in its ranks, and Signor Giolitti and his friends were rather hostile than neutral. On the first meeting of the Chamber (July 26) Signor Rudini, in the place of a political statement, informed the deputies that during the approaching recess the chief business would be the settlement of those treaties of commerce with certain nations which were in course of revision. He further promised to hasten to the utmost of his ability the liberation of the Italians still held prisoners in Africa, and to give relief to the Sicilian sufferers, and if possible to hit upon some plan for the permanent benefit of that island. The Chamber thereupon adjourned (July 22) *sine die*, and a week later, having got through its routine work, the Senate followed suit.

Nothing occurred to disturb the tranquillity of the recess. Signor Crispi seemed prepared to submit to his defeat and consequent eclipse. He had asked for and obtained from the Council of State a pension of 27,000 lire for his services to his country, and in return his special organ, *La Riforma*, ceased (Aug. 5) to appear. A misunderstanding arose between the Italian and Brazilian Governments with regard to sums claimed by Italian subjects for losses during the Revolution, and at last the Italian Government formally prohibited emigration to Brazilian ports, a serious measure in view of the fact that in the previous year out of 169,000 emigrants from the peninsula

more than 116,000 had selected Brazil as their adopted country.

The arrangements for a fresh convention with France with regard to trade relations with Tunis were carried on with goodwill by the representatives of both countries, but the chief seat of activity was the Home Office rather than the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As soon as the *fêtes* with which the marriage of the Prince of Naples and the Princess Helena of Montenegro was celebrated were over, the reconciliation between Italy and Portugal was officially recognised. The chief aim of the Cabinet in its home policy was to establish itself upon a wider and safer basis, either by recruiting adherents or by disarming opponents. With this object Count Guicciardini sought out Signor Zanardelli at Maderna, and Signor Granturco endeavoured to obtain from Signor Giolitti a promise of support during the ensuing session. On their side the Crispinists were not inactive, and Baron Sonnino was especially eager in bringing up laggards and stimulating the indifferent, whilst the Socialists were busy organising their ranks, and decided to start a daily organ of their opinions. For this purpose money was promptly forthcoming, although almost simultaneously a serious rise in the price of bread threatened to increase still more the sufferings of the poor.

The failure of the Pope's envoy, Bishop Macaire, to obtain from the Negus the liberation of the Italian troops detained in Abyssinia was followed at a short distance of time by the announcement that peace had been formally settled between Kings Humbert and Menelek, and was the more welcome as its proclamation followed immediately upon the news of the murder of the Italian Consul-General Cecchi in Somaliland.

During the recess the ministers had been seriously engaged in drawing up schemes of administrative reforms, of which the pressing need had been recognised by successive Governments. Signor Rudini was especially anxious to pursue the line adopted by his predecessor at the Home Office, but it had been subsequently abandoned. The Finance Minister, Signor Branca, was experimenting with a new tax upon personal property by means of which he hoped to remove some of the trammels by which the development of trade and finance was hopelessly impeded. Unfortunately the moment for anything like a remodelling of the fiscal system was unpropitious, every branch of trade and industry feeling or reflecting the general distress which prevailed throughout the country.

The meeting of Parliament (Nov. 30) for its short winter session was marked by a supreme effort on the part of Signor Crispi to recover his former ascendancy. Peace had been made with Abyssinia. The chief grievance against him was removed. His majority in the Chamber and the King's confidence might, he thought, be still unimpaired. A resolution, moved (Dec. 1) by Signor Imbriani, proposing the complete evacuation of

Erythrea drew from the President of the Council an explanation of the terms of peace and of the future position of Italy in Africa. Signor Crispi followed with a plausible defence of his own policy, to which the Chamber listened patiently, and then endorsed the ministerial programme. The Marquis di Rudini was equally fortunate with the Italo-Swiss Convention relative to the tunnelling of the Simplon, a proposal in which all parties concurred, but with the Tunis Convention matters did not work so smoothly. The permanent Commission of Foreign Affairs had, by a large majority, reported in favour of its ratification, but the last word on the treaty had to be uttered in Parliament.

In the meantime the Ministry had to face many attacks and occasionally to submit to some rebuffs. A bill dealing with workmen's accidents, to which the Government attached some importance, was indefinitely adjourned (Dec. 4) by the Senate. But the satisfaction of the Opposition at this incident was considerably modified by the turn given (Dec. 5) to a discussion in the Chamber on the disbursement of the Calabrian Earthquake Funds. Signor Cavallotti declared that he would never have thought such scandalous actions possible, and urged the Chamber to insist upon the publication by the Government of all the documents relating to the matter. Signor Crispi at once saw that the motion was an attack upon his administration, and his former colleagues used all their power to keep in hand the deputies on whose support they had formerly relied. But threats even failed, and the Cabinet, seeing that everything was to be gained by a complete revision of the Chamber, urged the need of a dissolution in the early spring. The next question was whether the King would assent to this proposal. In the hopes of influencing his mind on this subject, Signor Crispi decided to obtain if possible a personal interview with the sovereign. General Ponzio-Vaglia, *aide-de-camp* to the King and Minister of the Household, who owed his post to Signor Crispi, was able to bring his former patron into the King's presence, but the results of the interview were not hopeful. The ex-Premier was allowed to explain his views, but his tone was not conciliatory and his assertions were not always justifiable. The King listened in absolute silence, and Signor Crispi left the audience chamber without having extracted a word from his royal master, and General Ponzio-Vaglia was almost immediately dismissed from the special functions which gave him access to the King's presence. This action was the signal for a general revulsion of opinion amongst the crowd of deputies elected by Signor Crispi's favour, and the Parliamentary year promised to close peacefully. Signor Cavallotti even moderated his demands (Dec. 14), and so softened his denunciations of the mismanagement of the Earthquake Funds that his motion finally took the form of a hope that similar scandals would not be allowed to recur. The Tunisian agreement was treated with almost equal leniency. Signor Sciacco

attacked it (Dec. 15) on the grounds that it sacrificed the interests of Italians resident in Tunis and was contrary to the dignity of the country. Signor Ottavi defended the treaty, and Signor Visconti Venosta, by managing to show the specific advantages gained in the way of fishery and shipping rights, as well as in personal consideration; the Chamber by secret ballot, by 232 to 64 votes, ratified the treaty.

The marriage of the Crown Prince in October had led to some expenditure, which it was determined to discharge at the time of settling his Royal Highness' allowance. The latter was fixed at 1,000,000 lire (40,000*l.*), but the Radical deputy, Signor Imbriani, moved that it should be met by a corresponding reduction of the King's civil list. The Socialist deputy, Andrea Costa, went a step further and proposed that as the monarchy was useless its maintenance by the nation was unnecessary, and that the King's civil list should be reduced by 15,000,000 lire. These suggestions were met at once by the Marquis di Rudini, who by the King's authority informed the Chamber that orders had already been given to pay back to the Treasury the equivalent of whatever sum the Minister of Finance might be authorised to pay as the appanage of the Prince of Naples. By this stroke all real opposition to the grant was disarmed, and the vote agreed to by 263 to 36 votes with every mark of loyal gratitude. With this vote, followed by the passing of a bill regulating the note circulation of banks, brought in by Signor Luzzatti, the political existence of the Chamber closed, for although only nominally adjourned till over the New Year it was understood that the elections would be held at the earliest opportunity.

The proceedings of the Senate were even more summary, for in a single sitting that body disposed (Dec. 21) of the Prince's appanage and the Simplon Convention without debate, and although a special day (Dec. 22) was set apart for the Tunisian Treaty, little opposition was raised to its ratification. In reply to Signor Rossi, the Marquis Visconti Venosta repeated the arguments he had found effective in the Chamber of Deputies, whilst the reporter of the bill grafted on the treaty, Signor Mazona, defended its enactments, declaring that "Italy had proved as much by her patience as by her energy that she was animated by determination, not by resignation."

CHAPTER II.

I. GERMANY.

THE first important event of the year in Germany was the celebration on January 17 of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the German Empire. The anniversary was celebrated with great pomp and ceremony at Berlin, and the

Emperor made one of his characteristic speeches on the occasion, but it was noticed that in other parts of the empire but little enthusiasm was displayed. The following were the most important parts of the Emperor's speech :—

“The oath taken by his Majesty, our grandfather, of imperishable memory, on assuming the imperial dignity, and by his successors to the Crown, to protect the rights of the empire and its members with German fidelity, to maintain peace, to support the independence of Germany, and to strengthen the power of the people, has so far, with God's help, been fulfilled. Conscious of the fact that, while favouring no one and injuring no one, it is called upon to raise its voice in the councils of nations in the cause of peace, the young empire has been able to devote itself undisturbed to the development of its internal institutions. In joyful enthusiasm at its unity and prestige, so ardently desired and so arduously achieved, firmly trusting in the leadership of the Great Emperor and in the counsels of tried statesmen, more particularly of its Chancellor Prince Bismarck, the nation unreservedly devoted its strength to the realisation of the common aim.

“As we ourselves once more promise to emulate our grandfather in true devotion to duty, so do we communicate to all sections of the people our imperial desire that, setting aside party interests separating them, they should keep the welfare of the empire in view, together with us and our exalted allies, and place themselves, with German loyalty, at the service of the whole empire, in order thus to promote, by united labour, the greatness and prosperity of the beloved Fatherland. If this is done, then we confidently hope the blessing of heaven will continue to be accorded to us in the future, and we shall, as in the great times gone by, be able to meet unitedly and solidly all attacks on our independence, and to devote ourselves undisturbed to the cultivation of our own interests. The German Empire, far from being a danger for other States, and always enjoying the respect and confidence of nations, will continue in the future, as in the past, a strong pillar of peace. God grant that this may be so !”

The *Official Gazette* also announced the foundation of a new Prussian order, called the “Wilhelm's Order,” to be conferred both upon men and women for prominent services rendered in advancing the welfare and culture of the people, especially in social matters, in accordance with the recommendations of the message of William I. The first recipients of the order included the Empress Augusta Victoria, the Empress Frederick, the Grand Duchess of Baden, the Grand Duchess of Saxe-Weimar, Prince Bismarck, and Dr. Miquel and Baron von Berlepsch (Prussian Ministers of Finance and Commerce).

An amnesty was at the same time granted to civilians and military men condemned for certain classes of offences, including a considerable number of persons who had been sen-

tenced for the offence of *lèse majesté*, and for insulting members of the royal family.

On January 16 Count Kanitz, the champion of the Agrarian party, renewed his proposal in the Reichstag for the establishment of a Government corn monopoly. He denied that its adoption would cause a rise in the price of bread, or that it infringed any of the existing commercial treaties. Seeing that the imports of corn into Germany from Austria-Hungary had decreased to an extraordinary degree, Austria-Hungary's expectations concerning the commercial treaty had not been fulfilled. With regard to the supplies obtained in Germany from Argentina and Chili, it would not be a difficult matter to arrive at an understanding with those countries with which Germany had commercial treaties, including Russia. Count Kanitz declared that his scheme was not socialistic in character, and contended that no more anti-socialistic measure existed, the proposal being framed with the object of benefiting the peasantry. "I reckon on the support of the Centre," said the speaker in conclusion. "The Government may look on while the country is being desolated, but we want deeds, not words."

Baron Marschall von Bieberstein, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, said in reply that the motion had created expectations which could not be realised, and had given rise to anxiety and mistrust. He denied the existence of universal distress, even though it was not incorrect to speak of the unfavourable condition of agriculture, and contested the assertion that the present distress was due to the commercial treaties. The motion was, from a politico-commercial standpoint, utterly impracticable, while from a politico-social point of view it must be regarded with the gravest apprehension. The scheme did not involve the revision of the treaties of commerce, but their negation. Moreover, the necessary regulations of control would be very unpopular, particularly among the peasants, and besides this, the empire could no more guarantee the normal price of grain than the normal rate of wages. The Government would take action wherever advisable. This policy, Baron Marschall concluded, possessed less recruiting power than the so-called great remedies of the Agrarians, but was so much the more certain of success.

The motion was then rejected by a large majority.

On February 8 Prince Hohenlohe, the Imperial Chancellor, made a statement in the Reichstag upon the silver question. In pursuance, he said, of the undertaking given by him at the sitting of the House on February 15, 1895, he had gone exhaustively into the question of raising and strengthening the value of silver with the Federal Governments. In this matter he had been guided by the conviction that the fluctuations and heavy fall in the price of silver entailed economic prejudice upon Germany, notwithstanding that her monetary position rested securely on a gold standard. As the Secretary of State

for the Treasury had observed on February 16 of last year, the first point to be considered in this connection was the serious injury done to German silver mining by the fall in the metal. The production of silver in Germany amounts to about nine per cent. of the total output of the world. The fall in prices was not of so much moment to the immensely larger production in other countries, but to Germany it implied a decrease in value which was so large as to make it doubtful whether the home silver mining could be made to pay. Another point to be considered was the influence which it had upon German exportation to silver countries. There could be no doubt that trade with those countries was made more difficult by the fluctuations and fall in the price of silver. Although latterly those fluctuations had kept within comparatively narrow limits, and although those interested could find ways of securing themselves against losses, the German export trade, so far as it was connected with silver countries, was made to suffer from the conditions of exchange.

“I do not,” the prince proceeded, “underestimate the importance of the effect produced by this cause, but it must not be placed too high. Our exports to silver countries amount in value to only three-quarters per cent. of the total exports, and notwithstanding the hindrances of the months during which the price of silver was going back, they have, on the whole, made favourable progress. The figures furnished by the Statistical Department scarcely presented a comprehensive picture of the facts, but they went to prove that the sinking of the monetary standard as it occurs in silver countries through the fall in the price of the metal can only contribute to facilitating the competing exportation from those countries until the moment when the compensating influence of a rise in home prices and wages has established itself. Then, finally, the fall in silver brings about a great depreciation of silver coins, which become degraded to the level of paper money. This metallic depreciation is not, however, a danger to our imperial currency, for our trade is abundantly supported by gold. The Imperial Bank notes are adequately covered by the gold reserve in the bank, and the silver money which comes in does not exceed the demand, which even in critical times is not likely to suffer any diminution. On the other hand, the danger of counterfeit coinage is brought nearer by the depreciation of silver. Although up to the present only one case has occurred in Germany—in 1893—the depreciation of silver might always serve as an inducement to the coinage of false money. And now, to sum up, although the raising and strengthening of the price of silver is to be regarded from the economic and Mint standpoints as a highly desirable object to be aimed at, there is no doubt that it can only be attained by an understanding among the countries interested in international commerce. Of this there is at present no prospect.”

Early in the year the Prussian Conservatives were much

perturbed at the scandalous circumstances under which they lost two of their principal leaders—the notorious anti-Semite, Dr. Stöcker, formerly court chaplain, who declared himself a Christian Socialist, and his “dear friend and fellow-fighter,” Baron Hammerstein, late editor of the *Kreuz Zeitung*, who was sentenced to three years’ penal servitude for forgery and breach of trust. On this occasion the German Emperor published his opinion of Dr. Stöcker in the following terms: “Stöcker has finished up as I foretold years ago. Political clergy are a monstrosity. Whoever is Christian is also ‘Social.’ Christian Socialism is nonsense, and leads to self-sufficiency and intolerance—both of which run dead against Christianity. The clergy should concern themselves with their parishioners, cultivate love of their neighbours, and leave politics out of the game, as it concerns them not at all.”

On April 21 the question of duelling in Germany was the subject of an interesting discussion in the Reichstag. Herr von Bennigsen having brought in a motion “to request the Federal Governments to oppose duelling, which is at variance with the penal statutes, by all the means at their disposal,” Herr Bebel, the Socialist leader, pointed out that “not only the House, but also the nation, was, on the whole, against duelling, the abolition of which need alarm nobody, as British officers had done their duty in battle since it was done away with in the British Army, and the tone of society in Great Britain had not deteriorated.” Baron Manteuffel said that he was sincerely anxious to see the state of things existing in England introduced into Germany; but even there the measures taken by the late Prince Consort did not abolish duelling immediately, but only by degrees. Still, what was possible in England must be possible here, and, perhaps, may be even less difficult. Ultimately the motion was passed without opposition, but at the end of the year no steps had been taken by the Government in the matter, though public opinion had been deeply moved by the murder of a civilian at Carlsruhe by an officer, Lieutenant von Brüsewitz, “to save his honour,” and by a duel between two court officials, Herr von Kotze and Baron von Schrader, in which the latter was killed. Prince Hohenlohe, however, promised that new regulations would be issued on the subject, and that a proposal would be laid before the Reichstag for an amendment of the law with regard to duelling.

The Sugar Tax Reform Bill was passed in the Reichstag, after a week’s discussion, on May 14. It raised the duty on consumption from 18 marks to 21 marks, the duty on manufacture from 36 marks to 40 marks, and the bounties on raw sugar from 1 mark 25 pfennigs to 1 mark 50 pfennigs, while those on refined sugar were raised from 2 marks to 3 marks 55 pfennigs. This was equivalent to a grant of 48,000,000 marks instead of 22,500,000 marks for the benefit

of the sugar producers. It was at the same time decided that the total production of sugar for 1896-7 should be limited to 17,000,000 doppelcentner (about 1,500,000 tons).

On June 28 Baron Berlepsch, the Prussian Minister of Commerce and Industry, resigned. It was in 1890 that the Emperor appointed the baron to the above post, as successor to Prince Bismarck. The latter gave up the Ministry of Commerce because he did not agree with the Emperor's two decrees about agitation for the protection of working people, which were a prelude not only to the International Labour Conference in Berlin, but even to Prince Bismarck's resignation of the Chancellorship. Baron Berlepsch was one of the staunchest adherents of the social reform so enthusiastically desired by the Emperor at the time of his appointment, and his resignation was regarded as marking a definitive change of policy in this respect. He was succeeded by Herr Brefeld, Under-Secretary of State in the Ministry of Commerce, a man of extraordinary powers of work, but with no political proclivities.

The Prussian Minister for War, General Bronsart von Schellendorf, resigned on August 16, and was succeeded by Lieutenant-General von Gossler. The cause of General Bronsart's dismissal was believed to be that the chief of the Military Cabinet, General von Hahnke, was opposed to his schemes of Army reform, especially with regard to the military judicial procedure as to duelling. This victory of the Emperor's Military Cabinet, a secret and irresponsible side government, over the constitutional advisers of the Crown gave rise to some sharp criticism in the German press.

The Imperial Budget for 1897-8 was published on November 12. The estimate of receipts was the same as that of expenditure—1,328,301,824 marks. The ordinary expenditure, including non-recurring items, amounted to 838,137,580 marks, an increase as compared with last year of 24,209,238 marks, of which 16,326,376 marks was due to continuing, and 7,882,862 marks to temporary causes.

The Workmen's Insurance Fund was estimated at 3,331,500 marks more than last year. The Imperial Military Estimates showed a permanent increase of 6,935,571 marks, of which 4,000,000 marks was due to the rise in the price of provisions. The ordinary expenditure for the Navy showed an increase of 3,542,971 marks, and the non-recurring expenditure an increase of 6,704,127 marks. The Pensions Fund showed an increase of 2,024,910 marks. The amount to be covered by the matricular contributions from the individual States of the empire was 11,701,920 marks more than last year. In the debate on these estimates, Admiral Hollmann, Secretary of State for the Navy, stated that in order to replace the German fleet, the value of which was 320,000,000 marks, by new vessels, a sum of 32,000,000 marks was required to be set apart in the

Budget, seeing that the annual average outlay for new ships was to be 10 per cent. of the value of the vessels. The Government, however, only asked for 20,000,000 marks.

Count Posadowsky, Secretary of State for the Treasury, referring to the financial relations between the empire and the federal states, said that the title of the latter to shares of the surpluses of imperial revenue could not be set aside, although he was willing to abandon the Imperial Equalisation Fund. He hoped that the House and the Government would come to an arrangement by which the federal states would be protected against excessive claims being made upon them, and that the redemption of the public debt would be actively proceeded with. It would be rash to express at the present moment an opinion upon the working of the Sugar Taxation Law, considering the short time it had been in operation. The Federal Government had not lost sight of the question of the abolition of the sugar bounties.

After passing the Budget, the Reichstag was prorogued, its greatest achievement during the session having been the codification of the Civil Law, which was at length completed by a committee after fourteen years of unremitting labour.

A serious strike of the labourers in the docks at Hamburg broke out during the month of November and continued to the end of the year. Mr. Tom Mann promised the strikers that they would be assisted by the International Federation, and attempted to speak at some of their meetings, but was expelled by the police. Herr von Bötticher, Secretary of State, on being questioned on the subject in the Reichstag, said that he would not touch upon the question whether English co-operation had a hand in the strike, and he had no desire to make charges against British shipowners. The co-operation of the Social Democrats, however, was quite evident. One result of the strike was, he added, that the British workmen came over to earn the good wages which the Hamburg workers despised. The number of men on strike was upwards of 13,000. Arbitration was proposed by the Chief of the Police and the President of the Municipality, but without effect, both the employers and the workmen having refused to accept the proposal. On December 4 the strike was extended to all labourers employed in and about the harbour, causing considerable injury to the trade, not only of Hamburg, but of the whole of Germany. On the last day of the year another strike, this time of the members of the Corn Exchange at Berlin, took place against the appointment of an Assessment Commissioner to control their proceedings. In order to make themselves independent of this official, they formed themselves into a Free Commercial Union and transacted their business in a building next to the Corn Exchange, leaving the Exchange itself deserted. The chief reason of this step was that the corn brokers suspected the Government of an intention to protect

the interests of the producers at the expense of those of the traders.

A bill had been passed in the month of June at the instigation of the Agricultural Alliance, composed of discontented landowners and peasants, with the object of prohibiting time bargains in corn, mining shares, and the shares of all other undertakings with a capital of less than 20,000,000 marks. Among the regulations framed under this bill, the whole management of the Berlin Stock and other Exchanges was to be placed in the hands of a committee. In the Produce Exchange the committee was to consist of five representatives of agriculturists and two of the milling trade, and at least two of the agricultural representatives were to be present when prices of corn, malt, meal, etc., were fixed. Stocks and shares were to be quoted once a day, and foreign rates of exchange three times a week. There were also to be daily quotations of corn, spirits, and oil, and business was to begin and end at the sound of a bell. By forming themselves into an independent body the brokers became free from these vexatious restrictions as well as from the general control of the Government Commissioner.

An important political trial took place at Berlin in December, which disclosed some strange abuses in the internal administration of Prussia. The persons tried on this occasion were some journalists, who were charged with libelling Count Eulenburg, the High Court Marshal, in describing him as the instigator of the publication of a false version of the Czar's speech in reply to the German Emperor's toast at Breslau, but the person who was most incriminated in the course of the proceedings was Herr von Tautsch, the Commissioner of the Political Police. This was an institution originally started by the Junker party against Prince Bismarck when, as Prussian Minister, he was suspected of an intention to sacrifice the interests of Prussia to those of a united Germany; and as the party comprised several members of the old Prussian nobility, and was very influential at Court, the political police was practically independent of the ministers. Of late years it had used its power in establishing an elaborate system of espionage by means of which it became possessed of real or supposed state secrets, and it frequently availed itself of this information to denounce ministers to the King or to each other. The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Baron Marschall von Bieberstein, was one of the ministers who suffered most from this system of secret denunciation, and he accordingly took the opportunity of being called as a witness at the trial and making a scathing exposure of the whole system. The result was that Herr von Tautsch was dismissed from office, and an inquiry was ordered into his conduct and the institution of the political police generally.

The members of the British Institution of Naval Architects, including the President, Lord Hopetoun, and the Council,

arrived at Berlin in June, and had a very hearty reception from the Emperor (who on this occasion wore his uniform of Admiral of the British Navy) and the chief naval authorities. The Emperor, alluding to their friendly reception, telegraphed to Lord Hopetoun that he hoped it would confirm to them the truth of the saying that "blood is thicker than water."

In March, during the debate on the Naval Budget, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Baron Marschall von Bieberstein, made an important speech in the Reichstag in connection with colonial matters. He said that owing to the great changes which had occurred in German colonial possessions and to the struggle of competition, in which Germany was playing a prominent part, it was the duty of the Government to consider whether German armaments were in proper order, and whether improvements in or additions to the fleet were necessary. The Government could not wait until it was too late. Between the boundless plans put forward in some quarters, and faddists who wanted to refuse everything, the Government would proceed to act with reflection, always bearing in mind the object in view. He could assure the House that all future naval plans would be framed on these broad middle lines. Colonial policy must always be an outgrowth of foreign policy as a whole, and, applying this rule to Germany, he (the minister) was sure that the Reichstag and the nation would agree with him when he said: "Our first and foremost task is to be and to remain a guardian of peace and right to Europe in conjunction with our allies and with our friends, who are of the same mind as ourselves, and to be strong enough to keep disturbers of the peace within bounds."

"I think," proceeded Baron Marschall, "this task and the demands it entails furnish the very best guarantee against the possibility of our straying into the channels of an adventurous policy, which might split up our strength and deprive us of the confidence of other Powers. Chauvinism and Jingoism are foreign plants, which do not take root in the German character. We must, however, protect our legal interests beyond the sea, peacefully where possible, and if necessary by other means. To this end a flotilla of cruisers is an indispensable instrument. A deputy on the Left has advised the Government to conduct its colonial policy, not by means of cruisers, but with pen and ink. To this proposal a fitting reply would be, 'Cheap and bad!' The need of protection has increased, but the means of protection have diminished. This was experienced by the Foreign Office during the massacres in Asia Minor, and also in South Africa and in South and Central America, where we have even had to give up stations formerly maintained. As to the political situation in the Far East, six weeks before the conclusion of peace we drew the attention of the Japanese Government in a friendly manner to the fact that any annexation on the mainland would probably

lead to European intervention, especially the annexation of the Liao Tong Peninsula. Japan did not follow our advice, I assume for cogent reasons. When the Russian Government showed its determination not to allow such a conclusion of peace, there came about that pacific intervention, the result of which is already known. By this intervention we did not do the business of Russia and France, but, on the contrary, it was only by participating in it that it was possible for us efficiently to safeguard German interests. We took up our attitude, not to offend Japan nor to gratify China. A rising nation, full of energy, like Japan, which, in a short time, and by indefatigable labour, has achieved astounding things, and has shown that she possesses a strong arm by land and sea, can always reckon on the sympathies of the German nation. If the apprehensions which, on the outbreak of that war, were entertained for German interests were not confirmed we owe this above all to our navy. We have here to deal with a fixed and certain object; but I admit that in a certain sense our naval expansion has no prescribed limits. Every public or human task is boundless, for we never reach our end, which, as a matter of fact, does not exist from a moral or social, and still less from a material, point of view. So long as the German spirit of enterprise lives, cruisers will not disappear from our dockyards. In reply to the question, *quousque tandem* will you burden the taxpayers? I ask again, where is the boundary of our interests beyond the seas? But the protection of our interests has also its ideal aspect. We shall secure the preservation of their German character in thousands of our countrymen if we appeal to them by granting a powerful protection. In every sense of the word, therefore, our object is a good German policy, and I hope that for such a policy the Reichstag will always grant the necessary means."

In a further speech on the same subject the baron remarked that "in 1885 Germany had twenty-seven cruisers; it has now only twenty. The ships now asked for would not be ready for a good while to come, and by that time others would have become unfit for use. If, therefore, three new cruisers were granted, the quality of the ships at the disposal of the Foreign Office would, indeed, be increased, but not the number. In Central and South America Germany had not a single cruiser, though she has very important interests there. The *stationnaire* on the West Coast of America had to be withdrawn in 1881, and could not now be replaced, though there are about 100,000 Germans in that region, and the trade with it amounts to hundreds of millions of marks. At the outbreak of the Chilian Revolution, in 1891, Germany had to entrust the protection of its interests to the British Navy, because her cruisers had to go to Eastern Asia, whence it had not yet been possible to recall them." He concluded by assuring his hearers that Germany had no intention of entering into competition with the leading naval Powers.

The Reichstag eventually agreed to the following items : 1,750,000 marks (instalments) for two second-class cruisers ; 500,000 marks for a fourth-class cruiser ; 873,000 marks (first instalment) for a torpedo division boat ; 1,800,000 marks (first instalment) for several torpedo vessels ; and 350,000 marks for a guardship at Constantinople. A further augmentation of the Army was also decided upon, raising its strength to 624 battalions of infantry, 465 squadrons of cavalry, 494 batteries of field artillery, 37 battalions of foot artillery, 236 pioneer battalions, 7 railway battalions, and 21 train battalions.

Various plans were started during the year for the construction of railways in the German colonies in Eastern and South-western Africa, but the work had not been commenced at the end of the year. There was a rising of the Herreros and Hottentots against the Germans in South-west Africa, which was speedily put down by the German troops. The only other incident of colonial interest was the resignation of Dr. Kayser, the able and experienced director of the Colonial Department in the Foreign Office, and his succession by Baron Richthofen.

Prince Bismarck's birthday was celebrated in May with the usual festivities, and in the course of a conversation on this occasion he made the following remarks on the national qualities of the English, the Irish, and the Americans :—

“I find that nations succeed only so far as they have Teutonic blood in their veins, and so long as they retain the peculiarities of the Teutonic race. The English were a really great people only when drinking was fashionable among them. The Irish are a feminine race, full of sentiment, but little accustomed to use their understanding.

“I understand, I believe, every nation ; but the negroes are the only race to which I feel an antipathy I cannot conquer, for they strike me as caricatures of the whites. The United States, in the life of which they are of essential importance, have enchained my attention all the more. The fact that the Social Democrats play an important part only in the great cities there, where, however, it has proved possible to push them energetically into the background, is, probably, a consequence of the thinness of the country population. This hot-house plant, not of our civilisation, thrives only where people live close together.”

Towards the end of the year the prince made some diplomatic revelations which produced considerable excitement in Germany, Austria, and Russia. The first was a letter, hitherto unpublished, which he addressed to the late Emperor William on August 11, 1877, on the relations between Germany and Russia. The following are the most important portions of this letter :—

“I rejoice to find in your Majesty's letter a confirmation of my conviction that Germany must not assist at any humiliation of Russia, and that your Majesty is resolved to stand true to the

Emperor Alexander—that is, to carry out the *neutralité bienveillante*, and to give diplomatic support to Russia's reasonable wishes, including those which are based, not on general Christian, but on justifiable Russian, aspirations, as it is now probable that the peace negotiations are postponed. Only as victors, indeed, will the Russians be in a position to give effect to such wishes. . . .

“One fruit of your Majesty's policy seems to have ripened already—*viz.*, the due appreciation of German friendship by Russian public opinion. The efforts last year of Prince Gortchakoff and other anti-German politicians to establish an understanding hostile to us—first with Austria, and then, at their pleasure, with France—and to discredit Germany in the eyes of the Russian people and Army, have definitively failed. We have remained on good terms with England, and the people of Moscow, who used to be hostile to Germany, intend to send an address to your Majesty. Your Majesty has strengthened the friendship with Austria at Ischl, and the hitherto indefatigable calumniators of German policy now address their tales of our bellicose longings to deaf ears. With God's help, the 'Three Emperors' League, under your Majesty's guidance, will continue to ensure to the Emperor Alexander free scope, and to the rest of Europe peace.”

The second revelation was in the form of a statement, published by Prince Bismarck's organ, the *Hamburger Nachrichten*, to the effect that a secret treaty existed between Germany and Russia from 1887 to 1890, and that after Prince Bismarck's dismissal in the latter year the treaty lapsed, as his successor, Count Caprivi, acting under English influence, declined to renew it. This, of course, implied a breach of faith with Austria, whom, by the Triple Alliance Treaty, Germany was bound to defend against Russia. The Government, on being questioned on the subject in the Reichstag, did not deny the existence of the treaty, but declined to give any further information, as during the negotiations with Russia between 1887 and 1890 it was agreed that absolute secrecy should be preserved. Baron Marschall von Bieberstein, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, made the following statement to the House on the general policy of Germany towards Austria, Russia, and France:—

“In entering upon the subject of German policy towards Russia, I am perfectly alive to the great difficulties of the task. Please not to expect any revelations from me. I have no authority to make them. Moreover, they would probably only increase strife, and we have enough of strife in the country. My task is to throw light upon certain attacks, so far as the general interest at home and abroad requires them to be dealt with. In the latest controversy two accusations, each leading in a diametrically opposite direction to the other, stand out prominently. One is that German policy after 1890 committed serious blunders, and surrendered an important security for the

maintenance of peace. The other charge, which is levelled against the policy prior to 1890, asserts that at that time things were agreed upon with another State which were contrary to existing treaties. The latter of these two charges is the more serious, for it strikes us on a spot where, as we are entitled to say with some pride, we are most susceptible. I, therefore, address myself first of all to that charge, and I repel with emphasis the idea that anything has ever been agreed to by Germany with any State whatever that is incompatible with existing treaties. That has not occurred, either in letter or in spirit, for whatever we have agreed to was designed to serve the interests of peace.

“It is, however, doubtful whether with a number of alliances and treaties the intrinsic value of each increases, or whether it does not do the opposite. A danger arises that a multifold security may refuse its office just at the decisive moment. Wars which are avowedly wars of aggression are things of the past, even among nations who believe that they have reason to be dissatisfied with their lot. There exists at the present time so great a desire for peace, increased by the general system of obligatory military service, and by the dread of the effects of modern warfare, that every Government which has resolved to make war will use every effort, for the sake of its people alone, to avoid the odium of being the aggressor. There is more freedom of discussion now-a-days regarding the question of who is the party attacked. It results, therefore, that a Treaty of Alliance, which is to be effective, can only be of value in case of attack when among the allies a disposition may at all times be relied upon to regard the other contracting parties as the defenders of a just cause, and not as aggressors. Such a disposition cannot be set down in clauses. It must be acquired, maintained and cultivated. It does not have its birth in treaties, nor need it cease to exist with the expiration of a treaty. It rests finally, in the case of Governments, as well as of the governed, upon the knowledge that the maintenance of the respective positions of the allies among the Powers is a common interest, and upon a mutual and confident conviction that what the one asks it would itself under given circumstances be prepared to grant. Those are the factors determining the actual value of treaties.

“In the recent revelations it is asserted that until 1890 a complete understanding existed between Germany and Russia to the effect that in the event of one of these countries being attacked the other should maintain a benevolent neutrality. Whether this is correct I cannot say; but I know that by Clause I. of our treaty with Austria we are pledged, in the event of an attack by Russia upon Austria, to hasten to the latter's aid with our whole military power. But if what is stated in the revelations be correct, then we might be placed in the position that if war broke out between the two Eastern

allies, we should be asked on the one side for a benevolent neutrality and on the other side for support with all our military strength. We would then have to decide the question of who is the attacked and who the attacking party. For my part, however, the supposition is only of value as an illustration. When the German Treaty of 1879 was concluded with Austria-Hungary, it was stipulated by a special provision that, notwithstanding the secrecy observed, the treaty might be confidentially communicated to the Emperor of Russia. This communication was duly made, in order to make it clear that the unconditional and unrestricted observance of the secrecy of treaties involved a possibility of difficulties and misunderstandings for both sides. If Prince Bismarck's successor took another view of re-insurance, if he saw certain dangers in unconditional secrecy, and considered it even doubtful whether the guarantees of peace might not thereby be lessened, there might be ground for criticising and opposing this view. But I maintain that the convictions of an experienced and conscientious man are above the attacks which have been made upon him. The notion of English influence is inconceivable, and that Count Caprivi should on that account have refused to renew the treaty with Russia is incredible. The course of time has taught us that the omission to renew the treaty has not led to diminished peace guarantees for Germany. Did an acute danger of war arise at any time in those years? No.

“It is said that that policy has embittered our relations with Russia. I resist the temptation to make a comparison between our relations with Russia before and after 1890. Such a comparison is unnecessary, and cannot lead to any positive result. It will always redound to the honour of Prince Bismarck that in difficult times he knew how to maintain our relations with Russia on a good and friendly footing, and to make them useful in case of war, and indirectly for the maintenance of peace. History will place these services in a still clearer light than I have done to-day. But it seems like attempting to depreciate and undervalue Prince Bismarck's services to assert that, before 1890, these relations had no other foundation except the fragile pedestal of agreements which had to be renewed from time to time. Our relations with Russia rest on a firmer basis—on the friendship of the reigning families, on the love of peace of the sovereigns and Governments, on the observance of treaties and the mutual desire to see them everywhere respected. When our archives are opened it will be shown that after 1890 German policy successfully strove to maintain relations with Russia on this basis, and that since that date no single serious political difference had arisen. Some better foundation will, therefore, have to be found for the assertion of the press that we had broken the wire with Russia in 1890 than the reference to English influences, concerning which I doubt whether they will ever have a place in history. It was said that at that time

we had a strong rampart in the West, but I must remind you that in 1887 Boulangism gained a powerful hold, and that the dangers which then threatened have since returned. That Russia never supported an unprovoked disturbance of peace holds good now as it did then. Nor is there any foundation for the attempt to make Germany's policy in 1890 responsible for the present Russo-French relations. The suggestion that the treaty as revealed had the power to drive a wedge between two great nations having many common interests in and beyond Europe is a gross exaggeration, and there would be little difficulty in showing that in former times much less importance was attached to such agreements. There is, moreover, a peculiar inconsistency in this reproach against German policy. The statesmanship is praised which rendered possible the conclusion of a treaty with a third Power, side by side with our treaties with the Powers of the Triple Alliance. But at the same time it is pointed out with gratification that thereby it was made impossible for the third Power to conclude another treaty besides the one mentioned. If, however, the Triple Alliance did not hinder us from concluding a convention with a third Power, why should the third be prevented from seeking a *rapprochement* with another Power, and thus secure re-insurance for itself? If, then, this third Power, as we did, has made an alliance with another, we have no cause to express astonishment.

"The relations between Russia and France do not date from 1890, but find their beginning in the seventies. They have developed since then concurrently with the consolidation of the French system of government, and even before 1890 this development was at no time suspended. In fact, it then attracted the attention of political and even military circles in a greater degree than at present. The idea that it is the duty of German policy to divide two great nations has never existed, and would cost us sacrifices which we could not afford. These complaints and reproaches have another serious side. They ascribe to those relations a significance which hitherto only our enemies abroad have vainly sought to attach to those relations. Therein lies a warning to revert to the quiet, observant attitude which befits the circumstances and our dignity. The very questions which to-day stand in the forefront of political interest, and the solution of which will probably take years, render it in the highest degree improbable that one of the continental Powers wishes to create an occasion for conflict, the immediate consequences of which would be to cripple its strength for the solution of those questions. Especially, in view of our over-sea interests, shall we, even in the future, have occasion to go hand in hand with the same Powers as those with whom we have gone in previous years. German policy will faithfully and undeviatingly hold fast with the alliance with Austria and Italy and cultivate

friendly relations with Russia, on the basis, on which I have previously laid stress, of maintaining good and friendly relations with other Powers by respecting their rights in the same measure as they show respect for ours, ever ready on our side to throw our influence as a Power into the scales of peace. Taking our stand on this policy, and with full confidence in our defensive strength, we are at all times resolved to proclaim abroad the unity which we owe to our great Emperor and his great Chancellor. We can calmly devote ourselves to the cultivation of material and intellectual good, and face the future with full confidence."

In foreign affairs Germany was very active during the year, but not very successful. The Emperor's telegram to President Krüger (Jan. 3) congratulating him on his success in defeating Dr. Jameson and his companions "without appealing for help to friendly Powers," and in "safeguarding the independence of the country against attacks from without," naturally produced a very sore feeling between England and Germany, which gravely imperilled the continuance of the friendly relations that had previously existed between the two countries. A White Book, containing a number of despatches and other documents on the subject, was distributed among the members of the Reichstag on February 11.

The first despatch was from Baron Marschall von Bieberstein, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, to Count Hatzfeldt, the German Ambassador in London, dated February 1, 1895. The minister referred to some observations made by Lord Kimberley, then Foreign Secretary, upon President Krüger's toast in honour of the Emperor William on the occasion of his Majesty's birthday. Baron Marschall stated on this subject that the beginning and end of German policy with respect to the Transvaal was the protection of the material interests of Germany, which required the maintenance of the Transvaal as an independent state in the measure of the treaty of 1884, and the upholding of the *status quo* regarding the railways and the harbour at Delagoa Bay. Dr. Jameson's idea that Rhodesia would become the link of the commercial union, amalgamation, or federation of all South African states was antagonistic to German interests.

A despatch from London, dated October 25, 1895, gave an account of a conversation between the Marquess of Salisbury and Count Hatzfeldt, in which the British Premier said he did not regard the Transvaal question as by any means a "black spot" between Germany and Great Britain. He concurred with Germany in the wish that in the South African Republic the *status quo* should be maintained.

On December 30, 1895, Baron Marschall sent a telegram to the German Consul at Pretoria instructing him to impress strongly upon the Government of the Republic that all provocation must be most rigorously avoided if the goodwill of Ger-

many was to be preserved. On the same day the Germans at Pretoria forwarded a telegram to the Emperor William, imploring his immediate intervention to avert impending misery and bloodshed. On December 31 the Foreign Secretary in Berlin telegraphed to the German Consul in Pretoria that in case of emergency, but then only after consulting President Krüger, and for the sole purpose of protecting the consulate and the lives and property of German subjects, he should requisition the services of a landing party from the cruiser *See-Adler*, to be employed so long as the disturbances continued. At the same time, the German minister at Lisbon was directed to acquaint the Portuguese Government that Germany, in resorting to this measure, which was intended to serve only humane purposes, counted the more confidently upon the assent of the Portuguese Government, inasmuch as she had no other way open to her of seeing to the protection of her threatened subjects. The detachment from the cruiser which it was proposed to land would not exceed fifty men at the most, and this was a proof that its object was purely protective. On the same day (Dec. 31) Baron Marschall telegraphed to Count Hatzfeldt, instructing his Excellency to inquire immediately in official quarters in London by what means the British Government intended to meet the dangers arising from the crossing of the Transvaal frontier, in contravention of international law, by the troops of the Chartered Company.

On January 1, 1896, Count Hatzfeldt telegraphed that his impression was that the Jameson expedition, which his Excellency alluded to as "the proceedings of the Chartered Company," was in every respect distasteful to the British Government. On the same day the German Consul announced from Pretoria that the danger was over for Germans.

According to another despatch from London, Lord Salisbury, on January 3, expressed the hope to Count Hatzfeldt that the Transvaal question might be regarded as ended.

The last despatch in the White Book was a telegram from Baron Marschall to Count Hatzfeldt, dated January 6, in which the German Foreign Secretary observed, in reference to some remarks which had been made to him by Sir F. Lascelles, the British Ambassador, that he felt it necessary to protest against the view taken in the English press that the telegram of the Emperor to President Krüger was an act of hostility to Great Britain or embodied an encroachment upon British rights. "Germans," said Baron Marschall, "are very sensitive in matters affecting questions of law. It is not their custom nor desire to infringe upon foreign rights, but at the same time they require their own rights to be respected. It is impossible to perceive an act of hostility towards Great Britain in the fact of the Emperor congratulating the chief of a friendly state upon a victory over armed bands who invaded his country,

contrary to international law, and whom the British Government itself declared to be beyond the pale of the law."

Shortly after Baron Marschall, in reply to a question put to him in the Reichstag, observed that "Germany did not intend to interfere with the interests of foreign states, and had not done so in the case in question. On the other hand, the interests of Germany and of the Germans resident at Johannesburg had induced the Government to order the commander of the *See-Adler* to protect the Germans in the Transvaal if it should be necessary to do so. The relations with England had been normal and good all the time, and were so still. The White Book contained the whole correspondence on the matter. If, notwithstanding the composure of the British Government, great irritation against Germany had come to light in public utterances, that could not be helped. Germany recognised the value of good relations with England, and would not lightly endanger them. Moreover, nobody in Germany would support the Government in so wanton a policy. But the Germans had as good a right as any other nation, as good as the British for instance, to express their opinions frankly when the interests of the German Empire were at stake. If the Government acted so in this case it did its duty, and was therefore supported by the whole nation."

Notwithstanding Prince Bismarck's revelations, the relations between the Powers which form the Triple Alliance continued to be as friendly as before. The visits in the early part of the year of Count Nigra, the Italian Ambassador at Vienna, to Rome, and of Count Goluchowski, the Austrian Premier, to Berlin, were believed to have for their object a strengthening of the ties between Italy and her allies after the disaster she had sustained in Abyssinia, and also to maintain the good relations which had until then existed between the alliance and England and Roumania. In April the German Emperor and Empress had a meeting with the King and Queen of Italy and the Italian ministers at Venice, and there was a further meeting between the Austrian and German Emperors at Vienna. In September the Emperor seemed to be making a sudden *volte-face* by his demonstrative reception of the Czar at Breslau, but the coldness with which the latter responded to his cordiality, and the intimate understanding between Russia and France which was shown during the subsequent festivities in Paris, were felt by Germans as a humiliation which did not render them disposed to enter into any closer relations with their northern neighbour. The Berlin Government, however, associated itself, though hesitatingly, to the European concert on the Eastern question, initiated by Lord Salisbury and finally accepted by Russia.

In March a treaty of commerce was concluded between Germany and Japan for a term of twelve years. It did not fix any Japanese tariff, and only in a few cases laid down the

German Customs duties. The treaty was based on the most-favoured-nation clause.

The article abolishing ex-territorial jurisdiction for Germans in Japan was framed on the model of the similar arrangement already made between England and Japan.

Simultaneously with this a second treaty was concluded with regard to the rights and duties of consuls and the protection of patents and trade marks. Under this treaty German subjects were permitted to settle and establish manufactories in Japan; but all efforts to induce Japan to permit them to acquire land had failed. The Japanese stated that, owing to the preference of their poorer people for money to land, the more needy landowners would sell their land, and thus a large portion of the country would pass into the hands of foreigners. Hereditary leases were, however, permitted.

A brilliant reception was given at Berlin to Li Hung Chang in July, which elicited the following sarcastic comments from the *Vossische Zeitung* :—

“ Viceroy Li is just leaving Germany to continue his European journey of study and business. This is the end of an episode on which every German with a proper regard for the dignity of his country can look back only with very mingled feelings. It certainly was a step of political and commercial wisdom to give the Emperor of China’s influential confidant a polite, nay, a distinguished reception. Considerably too much has, however, been done in that line; more, perhaps, than accords with the dignity of so powerful a civilised nation as Germany; more, certainly, than was wise in the case of the extremely shrewd representative of the most arrogant nation of the yellow race. Honours have been done him here, as if he were the almighty ruler, and not a mere official, of the Celestial Empire, liable to lose his yellow jacket and all his power a second time at any moment. And people in the country strove to outdo the example of Berlin. Even in the days of his highest splendour, Prince Bismarck could not have been more brilliantly *fêted* at Stettin, Essen, Cologne, and other places than Li, for whom, not the Chinese, but the Germans, have invented the flattering *sobriquet* of ‘ The Bismarck of China.’ Very singular thoughts, not very flattering to the Germans, must have occurred to the sly despiser of men from the pigtail empire, when he saw the bearers of the proudest names of German industry paying court to him as a miracle-worker, who need only beckon in order to let a mighty flood of gold stream into their pockets. He is said to have kept himself informed of the contents of the most important European papers, and must, therefore, have known the state of feeling with regard to China that prevailed in Germany only a few weeks ago. It may, therefore, have seemed very odd to him that his mere appearance, and the supposition that he had brought ‘ a big purse ’ with him, sufficed to produce the most

extravagant enthusiasm for China in some quarters, and in the breasts of some people; and he cannot have received a particularly favourable impression as to the pride of the Germans and the firmness of their convictions. Not much has been heard of practical results of the showers of honours that fell on the Chinese statesman, and the expected rain of gold has not begun to tinkle yet. The Li Hung Chang fever is likely to leave a racking headache behind it, which is hardly likely to excite sympathy in any quarter. The sufferers have richly deserved their punishment."

The relations between Germany and Portugal, which had become somewhat strained in consequence of the Portuguese Government not having given its consent to the passage through its territory of a force of German marines at the time of the raid of Dr. Jameson into the Transvaal, were again disturbed at the end of the year by an attack on the German Consulate at Lorenzo Marques by the Portuguese settlers in that colony. Full satisfaction was, however, given by the Portuguese Government, and the incident was then closed.

II. AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The subject which most occupied the minds of Austrian politicians during the year was the extension of the suffrage. The Parliamentary Reform Bill was laid before the Reichsrath on February 16, and was passed after a fortnight's debate without alteration. It established a general suffrage, as demanded by the working classes, but only for the election of a body of seventy-two members, who were to be added to the four existing sections constituting the present House, which has 353 members. In the new section, every male adult who has occupied the same residence for the six months prior to the elections will have a vote, to be exercised as a rule by ballot, and only in some cases by oral voting. The privileged classes, numbering 1,732,000 electors, will retain the right to return the 353 members, and will have a plural vote. The number of electors on the new general franchise will be 5,333,000. Hence the future House will consist partly of members who, on the average, will represent 54,825 inhabitants, and partly of members, each representing an average of 323,619 persons. The new members will, therefore, represent five times as many people as the older sections, and the anomaly will still remain of sixty-three great landed proprietors electing a member to the Reichsrath, while for the representation of the urban districts one member can only be elected for every 2,918 voters, and for that of the rural districts one for every 10,592.

This mingling of the representatives of the people with those of "the classes and interests" was mentioned by Count Badeni, the Premier, in his introductory speech as one of the peculiarities of the bill. Among other things, the measure also

excludes domestic servants from the vote, by which clause alone 210,000 male adults are disfranchised. The vote for the fifth *Curia* will be direct only in the towns and those counties in which the provincial legislation has done away with the indirect vote.

The bill was not unfavourably received, not even by the German Liberals, the only party which is sure to lose by it considerably. This party hitherto represented about one-third of the members of the Reichsrath, but it would now be reduced to less than one-fourth, representing a large permanent falling off in the political influence of the German Liberal party.

The Anti-Semitic agitation at Vienna (see "Annual Register," 1895, p. 271) produced another crisis in the Town Council. Dr. Lueger, the head of the agitation, having been elected Chief Burgomaster, the council was dissolved by the Government (Feb. 20), but the result of the general election which followed showed an even greater majority in favour of the Anti-Semites than before. Dr. Lueger, for the fourth time within the past twelve months, was then elected Chief Burgomaster. The news of his election was received with great enthusiasm by his supporters. Many ladies kissed his hand as he passed out of the Town Hall into the street; one of his admirers called upon the guard at the palace to present arms to him, and another was loudly cheered for calling him "our Messiah." In the speech thanking for his election he made a violent attack on the Hungarian Government, and declared that his policy would be to liberate the Roman Catholics from Jewish oppression and secure the independence of Austria. A week after, however—owing, it was said, to negotiations which had taken place between him and the Government—he had an audience of the Emperor, at which he expressed his willingness to resign the post of Chief Burgomaster. He resigned accordingly, another Anti-Semite, Herr Strobach, was elected in his stead, and he was appointed Vice-Burgomaster, for which appointment the imperial assent was not necessary. This compromise for the moment put an end to the conflict between the Government and the Town Council, but Dr. Lueger still remained the leading spirit of the council and continued his agitation against the Jews. His influence with the people, however, was considerably diminished by his resignation of the post for which he had been originally elected. The detestation of the Jews, which prevails among a large section of the population of Vienna, was illustrated by the following extraordinary statements made by two deputies of the Reichsrath during the discussion of a bill extending the franchise for the diet. Herr Gregorig moved, as an amendment, that "Jews, whether baptised or not, are excluded from exercising the franchise," and added that "the Jews are a menace to the whole community, and there is no means of protection against their encroachments unless it be the confiscation of their property.

Until this becomes law, these insolent persons deserve nothing less than the horsewhip."

Herr Schneider, in supporting the motion, said: "I second the motion because I am of opinion that the franchise can only be exercised by men in human society. I cannot concede to the Jews the right of humanity, and am of opinion that we should make all intercourse between men and Jews punishable by criminal law, as an obscene act, contrary to nature."

On March 26 the Government introduced seven bills in the Lower House, providing for an increase of the salaries of civil servants of all classes, university professors, grammar school teachers, and professors at industrial schools and training colleges, and for additional Government grants to the lower clergy of the Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox Churches. The increase was about 20 per cent. in the lower ranks of the Civil Service, and about 10 per cent. in the higher grades up to Under Secretaries, who, as well as Cabinet Ministers, were excluded from the proposed benefits. The seven measures added nearly 14,000,000 florins to the Civil Service Estimates, while the introduction of the new civil and criminal codes entailed considerable additions to the number of law officers, and the proposed taxation reforms necessitated a large increase in the list of Treasury officials. There were, moreover, several bills already before the House raising the pensions of civil servants and their widows and children, and extending the superannuation of teachers, and as the pensions will have to be paid in future on the basis of the higher salaries it was calculated that all these measures would cost 20,000,000 florins a year. This sum was to be provided by the increase in the fare on the state railway lines, the raising of the stamp duty on Bourse transactions by 500 per cent., and the increase of the excise duty on spirits and beer. These increases were generally approved, as it was not possible to obtain the money by direct taxation, the house tax being already 42 per cent. of the gross total and the income tax nearly four shillings in the pound.

The heir presumptive to the crowns of Austria and Hungary, the Archduke Charles Louis, died in May. The health of his eldest son, Archduke Francis Ferdinand d'Este, was so delicate that he could not attend the funeral, and arrangements were made under which the late archduke's second son, the Archduke Otto; should become heir presumptive in his stead.

At the end of May, a bill for the relief of the distressed agriculturists of Austria, involving an expenditure of 57,500,000 florins, was passed by the Reichsrath. This relief was to be administered by remitting the land tax to the extent of 1,500,000 florins yearly for fifteen years, and for the same period making an equal yearly remission under the title of compensation for losses by inundations and other natural causes, including damage by mice and insects; by an increase of the existing yearly allowance for improvements for the next ten years; and, finally, by a

credit of 10,000,000 florins for the promotion of cattle breeding, the improvement of the agricultural implements of poor peasants, assistance to Agricultural Credit Societies, and other items.

In opposing the demand of the dissatisfied agrarian members for even larger grants, the Minister of Finance announced in positive terms that the Austrian Budget for 1897 would be the last to balance, and that that for 1898 would show a deficit unless the principal indirect taxes were again increased.

Outside the House the prospect of a deficit reappearing made a very deep impression, this being the first time for many years that such a pessimistic statement had come from an Austrian Minister of Finance. Among other things, the Austrian export trade has been steadily declining in volume and value for a number of years past, and last year's return showed a decline in the entire external trade of the empire.

Several strikes having taken place in July, a deputation of manufacturers waited upon the Premier to ascertain the views of the Government on the subject. Count Badeni, while acknowledging that some of the legislation affecting employers and employed was of a too bureaucratic character and required reform, pointed out that this was due to the neglect of the manufacturers themselves. The State, which acted and must act as an impartial mediator between the various sections of the community, found itself pressed upon the one hand by the working classes, who, in demanding certain measures of protection, argued the question exclusively from their own standpoint. The employers, on the other hand, considered these proposals merely as claims upon their own pockets, and, as such, to be opposed without inquiry into their merits. In these circumstances, the State had no option but to take the settlement of the matter entirely into its own hands, with the result that the solution arrived at satisfied neither the employers nor the employed.

The Prime Minister also reproached the manufacturers with expecting the authorities to take sides with them against another class—namely, their employees. That, he said, was not possible. The State did, and in future always would, intervene for the maintenance of order and the punishment of any transgression of the law. More it could not do. The complaint brought by the deputation against the Government factory inspectors for entering into negotiations with the workers during a strike received no countenance from the Premier, nor did he show any disposition to limit the right of combination among the working classes.

In June, bills for raising the bounties on sugar were introduced in the Cisleithan and Hungarian Parliaments. The maximum total sum to be expended in these bounties was increased from 5,000,000 to 9,000,000 florins a year, and at the same time the inland sugar tax was raised from eleven to thirteen florins per hundred kilogrammes.

The object of the change was to enable the exportation of sugar to continue to be carried on under the increased competition on the part of Germany, where the export bounty had just been doubled—that is, raised from one mark twenty-five pfennigs to two marks fifty pfennigs. The Austro-Hungarian bounty had hitherto been one florin sixty kreuzers, which is nearly equal to three marks, but this was qualified by the maximum aggregate being restricted to 5,000,000 florins, and as the amount exported was 306,000 tons, the bounty for about 60,000 tons had to be refunded, reducing the actual bounty to about two marks.

Dr. Bilinski, the Minister of Finance, introduced the budget for 1897 in October. In this budget the expenditure was for the first time divided into two parts, one for current expenditure, and the other for “investments,” *i.e.*, permanent productive works, the cost of which was to be covered by a special form of rentes, issued year by year, according to need, and bearing not more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. interest, payable out of the national income—that is to say, included in the annual expenditure. For the present, 50,000,000 florins of this new stock were to be issued, for the conversion of some floating departmental debts, and to cover “productive investments” in 1897, to the amount of about 26,000,000 florins. They included 2,000,000 florins for barracks in Galicia, and several millions for grants in aid to Prague and other towns, to enable them to erect public buildings.

The budget being thus lightened by what is called “investments,” and, on the other hand, the sinking fund of over 10,000,000 florins being added to it for the first time, without the usual power of re-issuing rentes, the minister arrived at the sum of 692,000,000 florins as the estimated expenditure in 1897, an increase compared with 1896 of 26,000,000, or, if the old method of reckoning be accepted, an increase of no less than 42,000,000 florins, since the investments are expenditure, whether contained in one budget or another. The average surplus of effective over-estimated income was stated by the minister to be 40,000,000 florins. Of these he took 26,000,000 to restore the balance in the budget, and to show a surplus of 500,000 florins, leaving a margin of 14,000,000 florins for all eventualities.

The official returns of the trade of the monarchy, which were published shortly after, showed that its trade with Great Britain was greater than with any other country except Germany. They stated the imports from Germany to have been worth 259,000,000 florins, or about 36 per cent. of the whole; those from Great Britain 75,000,000 florins, or $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; and from India and the British West Indies, 42,000,000 florins, or nearly 6 per cent. Italy, Russia and the United States came out at about 6 per cent., and all the other countries were far behind—France, for instance, showing only $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. On the other hand, the exports from Austria-Hungary to Germany were

about 48 per cent. of the whole—namely, 383,000,000 florins—and those to England $8\frac{6}{10}$ per cent., or, including India, over 9 per cent., amounting in value to 64,000,000 florins to Great Britain, and 6,500,000 florins to India. Italy came next with $8\frac{4}{10}$ per cent., and all the other countries figured in the list with less than 5 per cent. each—Russia with $3\frac{6}{10}$ per cent. Setting aside India and the West Indies, the direct trade between Austria-Hungary and the United Kingdom was worth in 1895 140,000,000 florins, or 12,000,000*l.*, and if the colonies were included, it amounted to over 15,500,000*l.* sterling.

The debates in the Hungarian Parliament during the year were stormy, as usual, but the Government and the Liberal party maintained their predominance. This was the millennial year, *i.e.*, the thousandth anniversary of the establishment of the Magyars in Europe, and the occasion was celebrated with a magnificence of display which bore witness to the wealth and industry of the people. A “Millennial Exhibition” was opened by the Emperor-King in May, with great pomp, at Buda-Pesth; and, on June 7, a splendid cavalcade of 2,000 noblemen, citizens, and peasants defiled before him in front of the castle, after which, accompanied by the Empress, he proceeded to the Houses of Parliament, and exchanged congratulatory speeches with the Presidents. The Czar on this occasion presented to the National Museum of Hungary the sword of the Magyar hero Prince George Rakoczy, which was formerly in the Russian Court Museum, having come into the possession of the Russian troops during the Hungarian revolution of 1848-9, when it formed part of the booty seized by the Russians on the defeat of General Bem.

In October the Hungarian Parliament was dissolved, and the usual rioting took place during the general election which followed. It resulted, however, in a great triumph for the Government and the Liberal party, which secured a majority in the House of about two to one. The Clerical people’s party lost some of its most influential members, and the Clerical wing of the Kossuth party, led by M. Gabriel Ugron, was almost annihilated, having been reduced from forty-seven members to seven. Count Apponyi’s “National” party, which recognises no nationality in Hungary but the Magyar, was reduced from fifty-seven to thirty-five. The Government having thus been greatly strengthened in the House, the chances of the renewal of the agreement between Austria and Hungary concluded in 1867, which is subject to revision every ten years, were considerably increased. The chief point at issue with regard to this question was the share which Hungary was to pay of the common expenses of the empire. This, when the agreement was first concluded in 1867, was fixed at 30 per cent., and it has remained at that figure ever since, although the wealth of Hungary has increased since 1867 in a much greater proportion than that of the western half of the

empire. It was accordingly proposed, with the concurrence of the Hungarian Government, that on the renewal of the agreement it shall be stipulated that the share hitherto paid by Hungary should be increased, but the Opposition in the Hungarian Parliament violently resisted this proposal.

In foreign affairs Count Goluchowski maintained his reputation as a strong and far-seeing minister. He proceeded to Berlin in January and March to have interviews with the German Emperor and Prince Hohenlohe, and at the same time Count Nigra, the Italian Ambassador at Vienna, went to Rome to consult the Italian Government; and the result of these interviews was to strengthen the ties which bind the members of the Triple Alliance. The count's main object seems to have been to prevent a conflict between England and Germany in consequence of the raid of Dr. Jameson, and one between England and Russia as regards Armenia. His policy was, in the interests of Austria, to arrest a break-up of the Ottoman Empire by inducing the Sultan to introduce reforms. Knowing that Russia would prefer to leave the Sultan weak and dependent upon her, he urged that the means of coercion should be agreed upon by the European Powers before they made their proposals of reform, but he joined heartily in those proposals directly Russia manifested her determination to insist upon them. His position was, however, an extremely difficult one, for not only Turkey but the smaller states of the Balkan Peninsula were being gradually drawn within the orbit of Russia. In May a serious dispute took place between Austria-Hungary and Servia, the mob at Belgrade having burnt the Hungarian flag and the Government having afforded very inadequate satisfaction for the insult. Baron Banffy, the Hungarian Prime Minister, on being asked a question on the subject in the Hungarian Parliament, described the conduct of Servia in this matter as "not simply unfriendly, but also uncourteous," adding that "the Servian Government had not the courage to withstand the pressure exerted upon public opinion by certain extreme parties."

The foreign policy of Austria-Hungary was fully explained in the statements made to the Austro-Hungarian delegations in June by the Minister of Foreign Affairs. He said that he did not approve of the intervention of only three of the Powers in the Eastern question. "What was the consequence of that intervention? The reforms they asked for were conceded, but remained a dead letter; and their mere announcement was sufficient to excite Mussulman fanaticism, and thereby led to the atrocities and scenes of terror which would remain a stain on the history of the nineteenth century. Instead of the harmony that was necessary amongst the Powers that had urged the Sultan to introduce reforms, a split occurred amongst them as to the means to be employed, and there arose an imminent danger of one-sided interference, which would have been the

signal for raising the entire Eastern question and kindling a general conflagration. That was the time when Austria took the initiative. The question then lost its acute character, all the Cabinets adopting the principle of frank discussion. The unanimity thus obtained was the surest guarantee for the maintenance of peace. The position of the Armenians, no doubt, continued in the highest degree pitiable, but of two evils it was necessary to choose the less.

“Russia showed that the maintenance of the *status quo* and the strictest adherence to treaties was the declared aim of her policy. A suggestion was made at the time of the revolutionary movement in Constantinople, that the Powers should, provisionally, with the strictly-defined object of assisting the Sultan in a case of emergency, and under the observance of mutual control, suspend certain provisions of the Paris Treaty (meaning the articles as to the passage of warships through the straits). What did Russia say to this suggestion? She declared herself in favour of any Conservative measure for Turkey's benefit, but still she regarded the procedure suggested with the strongest misgivings as a dangerous course to pursue, nor could she assent to any course which would, either closely or distantly, run counter to the dispositions of the Paris Treaty.

“As to Turkey, she must find means of preventing further massacres and horrors. She must put a stop to enforced conversions and the persecution of the Christians. She must protect those who want to return to the faith of their forefathers against Mahomedan fanaticism. In a word, she must so alter the conditions of her Asiatic as well as European provinces as to justify the confidence of Europe in her vitality, or else she will approach nearer and nearer to her downfall, which finally her best friends—and we are certainly amongst them—will not be able to avert from her.”

With regard to Austria's relations to the Great Powers, Count Goluchowski said: “Our relations to Germany, our oldest ally, are those of the greatest intimacy, mutual confidence and the closest understanding—relations which have become the second nature of both countries, and to which the continuance is secured to a distant future. We are more attached to Germany than ever before; we both feel the need of constant mutual understanding on all international questions, and we try, in the most complete harmony with each other, to solve the problems that form the task of the Triple League. This alliance suits us best just as it now exists, and we have no desire to change its form.

“We have absolutely no reason to view Russian policy with mistrust. We took notice of the statement of the Russian Cabinet that it would consent to nothing contrary to the Paris Treaty, and saw in it a new security for peaceful evolution. As long as Russia keeps to that course, she can count upon our

unconditional loyal support; for what has been our aim for years and years? Only the consolidation of the state of affairs created in the East by international treaties; the preservation of Turkey; the independence, strengthening, and free development of the several Balkan States and of friendly relations with them; and, finally, the exclusion of the predominant influence of any single Great Power to the detriment of the rest. We can only hail with satisfaction the fact that Russia now adheres to this, our old Eastern policy; and we regard it as proof of the sincere intention of Russia to co-operate in the promotion of peaceful interests, that, in the first place, she has abandoned her irreconcilable standpoint towards the Prince of Bulgaria by recognising his election, which this country, from the first moment, considered to be legal; further, that she endeavours to avoid everything which could arouse suspicion of her interference in the internal affairs of Bulgaria; and, finally, that she uses every occasion to emphasise her respect for existing treaties. As to ourselves, we shall continue the Balkan policy proclaimed so long ago. Our neighbours know that we would raise a determined protest against any act of violence from whatever quarter it came; and that we demand nothing for ourselves which would injure these Balkan States in their national existence. We are perfectly satisfied with what we have. We aspire to no expansion, and just as Providence has saved us from the temptations of a colonial policy, so our interests would be against the far more dangerous and injurious expansive policy in the East. We expect, however, from our nearest neighbours that amount of respect and friendly treatment which we, the elder amongst the nations, could claim from the younger offspring."

The minister praised Roumania, which, he said, had attained such political maturity as to have become an important factor in the grouping of the Powers of Europe, but censured Servia, which, he said, in the sixties was still a small model country, but is now torn by internecine party strife, while in her foreign relations she follows such doubtful ways that her friends can only watch her course with regret. In Belgrade people are disposed to make others responsible for their own mistakes—conduct which was not without danger, and which required a very large amount of goodwill on the part of a neighbour to be able to overlook it. Turning to Bulgaria, Count Goluchowski said: "I hope Bulgaria, which has hitherto been an element of order in the Balkan Peninsula, will know how to keep its independence in every respect, to maintain order and tranquillity, and to avoid any action which would be in opposition to the firm resolution of all the Powers not to permit any conflagration whatever in the Balkans. It is immaterial whether that is done while Bulgaria refreshes itself in the alleged balmy rays of the Eastern sun, or whether it gives preference to the tried

effect of the Western sun. We shall, at any rate, not influence its taste in this respect."

Referring then to Crete, the minister urged that it would be necessary to give practical effect to the Halepa Convention, and thus to create a basis for an orderly condition of affairs. He praised the hitherto very correct attitude of Greece in the matter, and said it was clear that the serious inconvenience to her of the present state of affairs in Crete arose from the Turkish administration in the island.

"With France," he continued, "we are on the most friendly footing, simply because none of our interests ever clash with hers, and because France shows herself so sincerely and loyally attached to peace that we can always count upon her for a peaceful solution of European questions."

The remarks Count Goluchowski made on England were awaited with no little curiosity, but were so meagre as to give rise to a number of questions. A Czech deputy asked whether the Foreign Minister had tried to intervene between England and Germany on the occasion of the differences about South Africa; also whether the minister would take up a certain position, if differences should arise between England and Russia, adding that "Austria has no reason whatever for doing anything for England, since the latter is not to be relied on in matters of foreign policy." The minister replied that traditional sympathies connect Austria-Hungary with England, and that there was on both sides an endeavour to give expression to those sympathies in their present relations. As an instance, he mentioned the recent question which arose out of the Dongola Expedition, and said England there appeared as the deputy of the Egyptian Government. That expedition was necessary, and she applied to the Great Powers for their consent to take the necessary sum from the Reserve Fund of the Caisse. He continued: "We had only to examine the financial side of the matter, and ask whether the proposed project would endanger the interests of the creditors or not. Having come to the conclusion, after a strict and conscientious examination of the case, that the British demand could be acceded to under any circumstances, we, in agreement with the German and Italian Cabinets, gave an affirmative reply. On the French and Russian side there existed political scruples with which we had not to occupy ourselves in this case, and also objections of principle as to a unanimous or a majority vote. We do not share the views of those two Cabinets in this respect, and adhere to our original resolution, which we still consider justified by the regulations to which the Dette Commission is bound."

The visit of the Czar to Vienna in August was followed by the imposing ceremonial, in September, of the opening of the Iron Gates of the Danube, on which occasion the Emperor of Austria proceeded to Bucharest to visit the King of Roumania, and most friendly assurances were exchanged between the two sovereigns.

CHAPTER III.

RUSSIA.

THE principal event of the first half of the year in Russia was the Czar's coronation at Moscow, on May 26. The festivities lasted from May 18 to June 7; the ceremony was attended by twenty-eight foreign princes, including the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and Prince Henry of Prussia, by 349 representatives of the higher nobility, 314 mayors with their assistants, and 800 delegates from the peasantry. In a manifesto addressed by the Czar to his people on the occasion of his coronation he announced that all arrears of taxation in European Russia and Poland were remitted, that the land tax was reduced by one-half for a period of ten years, that all fines, up to 300 roubles, and punishments of arrest or imprisonment for offences other than robbery, embezzlement, etc., were remitted, that persons banished to Siberia might return to European Russia after having been in exile for from ten to twelve years, but not reside in any large town, and that sentences of penal servitude were reduced by one-third or, in the case of life sentences, commuted to twenty years. In regard to political offenders, further remissions of punishment were announced in addition to those granted to ordinary offenders. The coronation festivities were marred by a terrible disaster which occurred on May 31 on the Khodynskoye plain, where a number of booths had been erected, in which presents of food and drink were to be given in the Czar's name to the people. An immense crowd, amounting to about 400,000 persons, collected during the night in front of the booths, and the crush was so great that nearly 3,000 people were suffocated or trampled to death. The disaster was generally attributed to the defective arrangements of the police, who did not come until it was too late to prevent it, and General Vlassovsky, the prefect of police, was dismissed.

An important strike of the workpeople employed in the factories in and about St. Petersburg, comprising about 30,000 persons, took place during the spring. The strikers demanded easier hours and better wages; but no serious disturbances occurred, and the Government did not take any of the severe and arbitrary measures which under former reigns were usual on such occasions. Placards were posted, stating that the grievances of the workpeople would be fully considered if the hands would return to the factories, and this was entirely effectual in appeasing the agitation. After a series of meetings, in which there was no interference on the part of the police, work was resumed in all the workshops; but the negotiations between the Government and the employers not having produced any result, the strike was resumed after the coronation, and it continued to the end of the year.

In July the Czar and Czarina visited Nijni-Novgorod, and the following proclamation, which shows a total reversal of the practice hitherto pursued on such occasions, was issued by the Governor of the town: "In the hope that the hours which the imperial pair will spend with us may remain a pleasant remembrance with them, I address some requests to the people of Nijni-Novgorod. In order that the Czar and Czarina may see their people, and that the people may see their sovereigns, all the streets through which the imperial pair will pass will be free from the military and police. But I beg and exhort the people to behave well, and maintain order themselves. I beg them, therefore, to keep the passage in the streets clear, and not to throw carpets or garments under the imperial carriage, as it has been the custom to do on former occasions. I beg them, further, not to throw petitions or flowers into the imperial carriage." The result was that perfect order was maintained in the streets without the assistance of either the police or the troops.

On August 25 the Czar and Czarina left St. Petersburg for Vienna, on a visit to the Emperor Francis Joseph. Prince Lobanoff, who accompanied them, was understood on this occasion to have arrived at a complete agreement with Count Goluchowski on the Eastern question; but this was the last achievement of the able and skilful Foreign Minister of Russia, for he died suddenly on August 30 in the railway carriage in which he was returning, together with his sovereign, to Kieff. The loss of the most valued of his ministers did not, however, prevent the Emperor from carrying out his programme of a tour in Europe. On September 5 he proceeded, accompanied by M. Shishkin, the Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs, to Breslau, to meet the German Emperor. The speeches exchanged on this occasion between the two sovereigns were somewhat significant. The German Emperor was, as usual, grandiloquent and effusive, speaking of "the jubilant waves of enthusiasm which have swelled" among his people to meet their Majesties; while the Czar coldly replied with thanks for his welcome and an assurance that he was inspired by the same traditional sentiments as his Majesty of Germany. Notwithstanding this, at a military dinner at Görlitz on September 7, the German Emperor, in proposing the toast of "The Fifth Army Corps," spoke of the Czar in even more effusive terms than before. "I must," he said, "express to you and the whole corps my special satisfaction that it was your good fortune to appear in this high state of efficiency before the eyes of my beloved neighbour and cousin, his Majesty the Emperor of Russia. We are still all under the fascination of the youthful figure of the knightly Emperor, and we still see him as he rode past us at the head of his late father's regiment. He, although commander of the most powerful army, desires to see his troops used only in the service of culture and for the protection of

peace. In complete accord with me, his efforts are directed towards drawing together all the peoples of Europe, in order to unite them on the ground of common interests and for the protection of our most sacred possessions. May this army corps, pursuing its peaceful activity, give proof in the future also of equally good results as it did to-day."

On September 22 the Czar and Czarina arrived at Balmoral on a visit to the Queen, and on October 5 they proceeded to Paris, where they had a splendid reception, all classes of the population, from the President downwards, vying with each other to express their joy at what they regarded as a crowning manifestation of the Franco-Russian alliance. Though Lord Salisbury was present during the Czar's visit to Balmoral, the Russian papers affected to regard the visit as a purely private one, and continued to express bitter antagonism to England and her policy. As to France, the objections raised by Russia in December to the French proposals of an international committee of control for the Ottoman Public Debt somewhat damped the enthusiasm produced by the Czar's visit, but a semi-official statement published at St. Petersburg declared that "perfect agreement on all points continues between France and Russia." On their return journey the Czar and Czarina stopped at Darmstadt, where they again met the German Emperor.

Whatever may have been the diplomatic results of the Czar's tour, there is no doubt that it impressed the world with the overwhelming power of Russia. Germany was universally regarded as having now been put back into the second place among the leaders of international politics on the continent, and in the only "burning" questions of the day—those in the near and the far East—Russia was taking the lead. Turkey and the smaller States of Eastern Europe were rapidly being drawn into her sphere of influence, while the signing by Li Hung Chang, during his visit to Russia in May, of a convention for the construction of the Siberian railway across Manchuria practically brought Russia to the gates of Peking. The proposed line is not for the present to proceed to an open port in the Liao-Tung Peninsula, but will be a portion of the Siberian main line to Vladivostock, and it is to be constructed and worked by a Russo-Chinese company called "the Eastern Chinese Railway Company." It is to start from a point on the Onon River, where the Trans-Baikal line touches it, to cross the Chinese frontier at Staro-Tsurukhaitu, and to pass through the towns of Tsitsihar, Khulanthen, and Ninguta. Its terminus is to be Nikolskaya, on the South Ussuri line, and its total length will be 1,920 versts, of which 1,425 (950 miles) are in Chinese territory. But the convention contains provisions of a much more far-reaching character than those which merely refer to the construction of the railway. The ninth clause mentions the possibility of military operations in Asia where "it will naturally be

difficult for the Russian fleets to move about freely and at pleasure," and accordingly China leases to Russia the open port of Kiao-Chau, with the proviso, however, that "should there be no danger of military operations, Russia will not enter immediately into possession, in order to obviate the chance of exciting the jealousy and suspicions of other Powers." Further, by clause 10, the Liao-Tung ports, Talienwan and Port Arthur, are declared to be "important strategical points," and China accepts the obligation "to properly fortify them with all haste and to repair all their fortifications." Russia is to give all necessary assistance for protecting these ports, and "will not permit any foreign Power to encroach upon them;" China engaging "never to cede them to another Power," but consenting to allow Russia, if suddenly involved in war, to "temporarily concentrate her sea and land forces" in them. This of course amounts to an engagement on the part of China to place her best military harbours and her most important strategical positions at the disposal of Russia. In this connection the enormous projected increase of the Russian Navy is worthy of note. The amount to be spent for this purpose up to 1906 was 800,000,000 roubles. The two triple-screw steamers *Pallade* and *Diana*, which were being built at the Franco-Russian Dockyard at St. Petersburg, had each 6,630 tons displacement, and 11,610 horsepower, and it was expected that their speed would be about twenty-two knots. The cost of each of them without their armament was estimated at 2,336,000 roubles. At the end of the year Russia had a strong fleet in the Baltic, another in the Black Sea, a third in the Pacific, and would soon have a fourth in the Arctic Ocean, as a port had been discovered on the Murman coast which was to be connected with Finland by railway. The chief port in the Black Sea was Nikolaieff, which had the largest dockyards, but it would soon be outstripped by Sebastopol. The Russian Volunteer Fleet in the Black Sea, which was a mere fleet of transport ships, would be rendered very useful in war by junction with the Mediterranean Fleet, and by the transformation of its vessels into swift cruisers.

The chief Baltic arsenal of the Russian Navy was Cronstadt, but it had a formidable rival in Libau, although the experience of recent writers did not confirm the opinion that it was perfectly ice-free. It had, however, the great advantage of lying much farther west than Cronstadt. The naval head-quarters in the Pacific were at Vladivostok; but the Russians hoped soon to have a better station at Port Lazareff, or some port still farther south, and also free from ice. The enormous value of the points on the French coasts which the Russians had been permitted to use in common with the French in the Mediterranean, the Atlantic, and the Indian Oceans was evident; but the Russian Government had nevertheless built warships of great coaling capacity, in order to be absolutely independent.

Although under the new Czar a more liberal and humane

spirit has been gradually introduced in all the branches of the Administration, the punishment of flogging for the most trivial offences still existed in Russia, and in December a petition was addressed to the Government by a large number of provincial *zemstvos*, begging for the exemption from this degrading penalty of all peasants who have learned to read and write. The number of people who would come under this exemption is comparatively small, and Count Tolstoi, in protesting against the proposed limitation, cited numerous cases in which peasants have been flogged for "speaking their minds" to overbearing officials. Other relics of the old *régime* during the year were the dismissal in September of distinguished professors of the universities of St. Petersburg and Moscow on account of "their liberal and progressist views," and the wholesale arrests of students for protesting against the interference of the police with the internal organisation of the universities. An inquiry, however, was being held at the end of the year into the students' grievances by M. Goremykin, the new Minister of the Interior, who during his short tenure of office had already done much to check the abuses of the officials. In the kingdom of Poland the new policy had an able and considerate exponent in Count Schouvaloff, the governor. Under his predecessors the Poles, though they had for nearly a hundred years been Russian subjects, were treated as enemies in a conquered country; the Russian officials looked upon them as traitors and conspirators, while the Poles regarded the Russians as tyrants. This was a highly perilous situation, not so much for the Poles, whose national spirit was only stimulated by oppression, as for Russia, who had to keep a large army locked up in her frontier provinces to hold in subjection millions of people who in the event of an invasion would most probably side with the invader. The more modern school of Russian statesmen is inclined to avert this danger by attempting to reconcile the Poles to the Russian rule, as they have been to that of the Hapsburg dynasty in Austria, which fifty years ago oppressed them even more than the Czars. On the other hand, there has grown up in Poland a new generation, in whom the bitter recollections of 1863 are disappearing, and who would gladly accept the hand of Russia if it were offered to her. Count Schouvaloff paved the way for a *rapprochement* between the moderate Russians and the moderate Poles by infusing a more healthy tone in the Administration; but his tenure of office was too short to introduce such reforms as would give the Poles the same rights—such as local administration by provincial assemblies and trial by jury—as the other European subjects of Russia.

The attitude of Russia towards the other European Powers was throughout the year conciliatory and pacific, though she practically took the lead in most of the questions in which her interests were concerned. In the Armenian question she at first steadfastly refused to give her sanction to any policy of

coercion with regard to Turkey ; but towards the close of the year she manifested an inclination to depart from her original attitude in this respect, and strongly urged upon the Sultan the necessity of introducing effective reforms in the general administration of the Ottoman Empire. It was hoped in France that she would make some representations to England with a view to the evacuation of Egypt ; but the only active manifestation of the *entente cordiale* between Russia and France was the opposition of the representatives of those Powers to the advance from the Egyptian treasury for the expenses of the Dongola expedition. The Russian press, however, continued its attacks upon England, and the following extract from an article in the semi-official *St. Petersburg Gazette*, which is edited by Prince Ukhtomsky, the friend of the Czar and his companion during his journey to India and Japan when he was Crown Prince, represents the general views of the Russian papers as to English foreign policy : “ We Russians have a very good right to protest against England’s new step in the Egyptian question—we mean the sending of Indian troops to Egypt. The Dongola expedition, which has changed into a Soudan enterprise, already threatened our interests by the prolongation of the occupation of Egypt *ad infinitum* ; but the reinforcement of the British troops in the valley of the Nile is a direct danger for us. After the difficulties thrown in our way in China and Japan—after Chitral and Armenia—England’s action in Egypt is assuming a character more and more hostile to Russia. The troubles produced by Englishmen in the Armenian provinces of Turkey had, besides several immediate purposes, a future object also—*viz.*, the establishment of direct communication between India and the Mediterranean by land. According to a *savant*, who has returned from Asia Minor, the reason of the support of the Armenian revolutionists by England was her intention to take possession of the Gulf of Persia, to which British subjects wished to build a railway from Port Said ; but it is important to remember that the English have already taken complete commercial possession of the Persian Gulf, both on the Persian and on the Arabian side. If we consider that the British consul at Bender Abushir is more influential than the authorities there, including even the Shah’s own representative, and that British military agents traverse the territory near the gulf just as if they were in their own country, it is quite clear how important the military enterprises of the Power which is in possession of Port Said and the adjoining country are to Russia. To paralyse England’s Persian project by all possible efforts is extremely important to us Russians, for Persia borders immediately on our possessions, whereas British India is separated from Persia by Afghanistan and Beluchistan.”

A remarkable change was effected during the year in the relations of Russia with the smaller states of the Balkan Peninsula (see also “ Turkey,” pp. 299, 300). Prince Ferdinand

of Bulgaria was present at the Czar's coronation, and afterwards had some important conferences with the leading men of St. Petersburg, the effect of which was still further to accentuate his subservience to Russia. In Servia, Queen Natalie gradually recovered her old influence, and the pro-Russian party grew stronger than ever. Even in Roumania, it was freely acknowledged that if Russia were unchecked in her efforts to acquire a predominating position on the Balkans, the Roumanians would have no alternative but to throw in their fortunes with those of "the divine figure from the North." With regard to England, the following significant announcement was made in November as to the statement that a *rapprochement* between her and Russia might be brought about by the latter Power being granted the right of free egress for her ships of war from the Black Sea:—

"The Russian Government still adheres resolutely to the position which it has taken up on the strength of existing treaties, in the first rank of which is the clause relating to the Black Sea. This clause, far from being disadvantageous, is a valuable guarantee for the Muscovite Empire, for though it is an obstacle to the egress of Russian men-of-war from the Euxine, it constitutes an equivalent obstacle to the entrance of foreign ships into the sea, and consequently an indirect safeguard for Russia's southern coast, as well as for her weak and newly created Black Sea Fleet.

"On the other hand, it has to be borne in mind that in time of peace vessels bound for or from the Far East with Russian soldiers or munitions of war are at perfect liberty to pass the Dardanelles, and in time of war Russian ironclads would, probably, have little difficulty in forcing the passage of these straits if the interests of the empire required that such an extreme course should be resorted to.

"The Russian Government no more desires the abrogation of the clause relating to ingress to and egress from the Black Sea than it does the occurrence of such events as the deposition of the Sultan, or the fall and partition of the Ottoman Empire, which would give rise to serious international complications, in harmony neither with Russia's aspirations nor with her interests at the present time; and, far from pursuing a policy calculated to give rise to such eventualities, the Government is determined to shape its diplomatic action in such a way as to prevent, or at any rate delay, their occurrence."

TURKEY AND THE MINOR STATES OF EASTERN EUROPE.

The crisis in Turkey continued throughout the year, but though the empire seemed to be at every moment on the verge of a catastrophe it still held together, putting down insurrections among its Christian subjects and presenting a passive resistance to the demands of the Powers on their behalf. The rising of the Armenians at Zeitoun, which had become very formidable

to the Turkish troops, ended with the surrender of the insurgents in consequence of the mediation of the Powers, the Sultan having promised them an amnesty and the appointment of a Christian Governor. Massacres of Armenians continued, however, in other places, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the Powers and a letter addressed to the Sultan by the Queen of England on the subject. The general anarchy which prevailed caused a dangerous feeling of discontent, not only among the Christians, but also among the Mussulman populations, but the Sultan, and the *camarilla* by which he was surrounded, were evidently quite incapable of meeting the evil, and meanwhile the misrule and cruelties of the provincial governors and their troops remained practically unchecked. In June a revolt broke out among the Druses of the Hauran, and fresh disturbances took place at Van, in which many Armenians as well as Turks were killed. There was also fighting in Macedonia, but by the end of the year all these risings had been put down by the troops. In August a terrible massacre of Armenians took place at Constantinople in consequence of an attack on the Ottoman Bank by the Armenian revolutionists. For nearly thirty hours the city was given over to the Mahomedan mob, who were armed by the Turkish authorities and committed atrocious outrages. Upwards of 2,000 Armenians were killed, and numerous shops, warehouses and offices were pillaged and destroyed. The following collective note was addressed to the Porte on the subject on August 31 by the representatives of Austria-Hungary, Germany, France, Italy, Russia and Great Britain:—

“The representatives of the Great Powers believe it their duty to draw the attention of the Sublime Porte to an exceptionally serious side of the disorders which have recently stained with blood the capital and its environs.

“It is the declaration on positive data of the fact that the savage bands which murderously attacked the Armenians and pillaged the houses and shops, which they entered under the pretence of looking for agitators, were not accidental gatherings of fanatical people, but presented every indication of a special organisation known by certain agents of the authorities if not directed by them. This is proved by the following circumstances:—

“(1) The bands rose simultaneously at different points of the town at the first news of the occupation of the bank by the Armenian revolutionaries, before even the police or an armed force had appeared on the scene of the disorder, while the Sublime Porte admits that information was received in advance by the police regarding the criminal designs of the agitators.

“(2) A great part of the people who composed these bands were dressed and armed in the same manner.

“(3) They were led or accompanied by Softas, soldiers, or even police officers, who not only looked on unmoved at their excesses, but at times even took part in them.

“(4) Several heads of the detective police were seen to distribute cudgels and knives among these Bashi-Bazouks, and point out to them the direction to take in search of victims.

“(5) They were able to move about freely, and accomplish their crimes with impunity, under the eyes of the troops and their officers, even in the vicinity of the imperial palace.

“(6) One of the assassins, arrested by the dragoman of one of the embassies, declared that the soldiers could not arrest him. On being taken to Yildiz Palace, he was received by the attendants as one of their acquaintances.

“(7) Two Turks, employed by Europeans, who disappeared during the two days' massacre, declared, on their return, that they had been requisitioned and armed with knives and cudgels in order to kill Armenians.

“These facts need no comment.

“The only remarks to be added are, that they recall what happened in Anatolia, and that such a force springing up under the eyes of the authorities and with the co-operation of certain of the latter's agents becomes an exceedingly dangerous weapon. Directed to-day against one nationality of the country, it may be employed to-morrow against the foreign colonies, or may even turn against those who tolerated its creation.

“The representatives of the Great Powers do not believe it right to conceal these facts from their Governments, and consider it their duty to demand of the Sublime Porte that the origin of this organisation should be sought out, and that the instigators and principal actors should be discovered and punished with the utmost rigour.

“They are ready, on their part, to facilitate the inquiry, which should be opened by making known all the facts brought to their notice by eye-witnesses, which they will take care to submit to a special investigation.”

To this note the Porte replied denying that the attacks on the Armenians by the Mussulman mob had been instigated by Government agents, pointing out that among the dead there were many Mahomedans who had been attacked by Armenians, and promising that the Mahomedans as well as the Armenians who took a leading part in the riots would be tried by a special tribunal appointed for the purpose. No faith, however, was placed in these statements, especially as it was believed that the Porte was all along secretly supported by Russia, one of whose most distinguished military officers, General Tchikatcheff, chief of the general staff in the district of Odessa, had just been sent to inspect the fortifications of the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles. Meanwhile massacres recommenced in various parts of Armenia; wholesale arrests, both of Turks and of Armenians, took place in the capital, and crowds of Armenian and other Christian residents of Constantinople emigrated to Bulgaria, Greece and Russia. The Armenian Revolutionary Committee, too, was very active, and compelled

its wealthier co-nationalists to subscribe to the revolutionary organisation by threats of assassination.

In October a poll-tax was levied by the Government on the Mussulman population for the establishment of a fund for military preparations. It was supposed at first that the object of this tax was to obtain arms for the purpose of arming the Mussulmans against the Christians, and the ambassadors having made representations to the Porte on the subject, an official announcement was published to the effect that the arms to be purchased with the produce of this tax were to be issued to the army and not to civilians. What prevented the introduction of the reforms repeatedly promised by the Sultan was not only goodwill, but perhaps more than anything else the want of money. The pay both of the Army and of the Civil Service had owing to this cause been greatly in arrear, and this being the case it was not to be expected that they should carry out the difficult duties entrusted to them with much zeal or application, so that the Government, finding its usual resources insufficient, tried to put down insurrections by appealing to the passions of the mob. A scheme was consequently proposed by France for the reorganisation of Turkish finance on the basis of European control. The scheme was to establish, by means of conversions of existing loans, extensions of the time of redemption, and the introduction of monopolies, to pave the way for a large Ottoman loan, which all the European Great Powers were to guarantee, on condition that the Debt Commission, which was at present constituted of representatives of the bondholders of several countries, should be transformed into a representation of the Powers themselves, as in Egypt, and that the future Debt Commission should exercise control over the entire financial administration—in other words, that Europe should, as in Egypt, have the right of interference in Turkish financial matters. This plan fell to the ground in consequence of the opposition of Russia, which was strongly averse to any international control of the Government of Turkey. No improvement in the administration had been made at the end of the year, but on December 22, in compliance with the urgent representations of the Powers, and notably of Russia, an amnesty was granted to all the Armenian prisoners except those sentenced to death for murder. Two bishops who had been condemned to death were pardoned.

Another question which gave the Porte and the Powers almost as much trouble and anxiety as that of Armenia was that of the riots in Crete. The fighting between the Turkish troops, aided by the Mahomedan population, and the Christians began in June, and the whole of the island was given up to fire and sword. On June 28, Georgi Berovitch Pasha, Prince of Samos, who had the reputation of being one of the most humane and enlightened of the provincial governors, was appointed Governor-General of Crete, *vice* Abdullah Pasha, but

the latter was retained as commander-in-chief of the forces. This did not of course satisfy the Christian delegates of the Cretan Assembly, who addressed the following demands to the Powers :—

“1. The appointment of a Christian Governor, with the assent of Greece and under the special guarantee of the Powers. 2. The establishment of a native militia. 3. The confinement of the regular Turkish troops to the forts at Canea, Retimo and Heraklion. 4. Participation in public offices by the Christians according to their proportion to the whole population. 5. The economic independence of the island, with a tribute of £T10,000 paid to the Porte annually. 6. An electoral system allowing of the representation of minorities. 7. The establishment of a Court of Cassation at Canea. 8. The appointment of foreigners to organise the militia and the courts. 9. The banishment of all Benghaziis possessing no means. 10. The guarantee of the Powers for the new state of affairs.”

Meanwhile the Porte continued to temporise, and the fighting between the insurgents and the troops proceeded with varying success. At length, in September, the following convention was agreed upon between the Sultan and the Powers for the settlement of the future political organisation of the island :—

“ARTICLE 1.—The Governor-General of Crete shall be Christian, and be appointed for five years by the Sultan, with the assent of the Powers.

“ARTICLE 2.—The Governor-General shall have the right of veto upon laws voted by the Assembly, with the exception of those dealing with changes in the constitutional statutes of the island (Organic Statute, Halepa Pact and its modifications), which shall be submitted to his Majesty the Sultan. The right of veto must be exercised within a period of two months, at the expiration of which the laws shall be regarded as sanctioned.

“ARTICLE 3.—The Governor-General, in the event of disturbances in the island, may, for the re-establishment of order, employ the imperial troops, which, except in this case, will remain in their ordinary garrisons.

“ARTICLE 4.—The Governor-General shall, on his own authority, appoint secondary officials, of whom a list is to be afterwards drawn up. The higher officials shall continue to be appointed by the Sultan.

“ARTICLE 5.—Two-thirds of the public appointments shall be given to Christians, and one-third to Mussulmans.

“ARTICLE 6.—The elections for the General Assembly and the sessions of this Assembly shall take place every two years. The sessions will last from forty to eighty days.

“The Assembly shall vote on the biennial budget, check accounts, and discuss and vote upon, by a majority of the members present, the bills and proposals which may be submitted by the Governor-General or individual deputies.

“Proposals relating to modifications to be introduced in the constitutional statutes of the island shall be considered as valid when voted by a majority of two-thirds. No new law shall be put into execution unless it has been passed by the Assembly.

“ARTICLE 7.—Proposals tending to increase the expenses of the budget may not be discussed by the Assembly unless they are introduced by the Governor-General, the Administrative Council, or the competent bureaux.

“ARTICLE 8.—Paragraph 1. The provisions of the Firman of 1887, granting to Crete half the customs revenue of the island, shall again be put in force. Paragraph 2. The tax upon imported tobacco shall belong to the island. Paragraph 3. The Sublime Porte takes upon itself all deficits arising from budgets which have not been voted by the Assembly, deducting, however, the sums advanced to the island by the Imperial Treasury.

“ARTICLE 9.—A commission, comprising European officers, shall proceed to reorganise the constabulary.

“ARTICLE 10.—A commission, comprising foreign jurists, shall deliberate upon the reforms to be introduced in the organisation of justice, express reservation being made of the rights resulting from the capitulations.

“ARTICLE 11.—The publication of books and newspapers, and the establishment of printing presses and of scientific societies, shall be sanctioned by the Governor-General according to law.

“ARTICLE 12.—Immigrants from the Benghazi country will not be allowed to settle in Crete without permission from the Governor, who is empowered to expel any individual unable to prove that he has means of subsistence, or whose presence would appear to him to be dangerous to public order, under reservation of the rights possessed by foreign subjects.

“ARTICLE 13.—The General Assembly shall be convoked within six months of the sanction of the present arrangements, and the elections shall be ordered according to the law of 1888. Pending the meeting of the Assembly, the Governor-General, in concert with the Administrative Council, shall regulate by provisional ordinances the execution of the present arrangements.

“ARTICLE 14.—The Powers shall satisfy themselves that all these provisions are duly carried out.

“NOTE.—The representatives of the Powers are of opinion that favourable consideration should be given to the demand for the establishment of a customs surtax, to be applied in payment of indemnities for the damage caused during recent events. They consider it to be essential, however, that the distribution should be supervised by the Consuls.”

This convention practically remained a dead letter. Berovitch Pasha, who was reappointed as Christian Governor, did his best to carry it out, but his efforts were foiled by

Abdullah Pasha, the commander-in-chief, who, being senior to him in rank, was able to prevent his orders from being effectually carried out, especially as the Porte did not show any wish to give effect to the terms of the convention.

In Bulgaria the most important event of the year was the "conversion" of the young Prince Boris to the Greco-Bulgarian Church and the consequent reconciliation of Bulgaria with Russia. Prince Ferdinand, though he was unable to obtain the consent either of the Pope or of his wife's family to his son's change of religion, had now gone too far to withdraw, for the "conversion" was loudly demanded by the Bulgarian people, and had actually been promised them by his ministers. He accordingly announced, by a manifesto read in the Bulgarian Chamber on February 4, that he had resolved "to lay on the altar of the Fatherland the greatest and heaviest of sacrifices," and that on February 14 "the rite of holy confirmation will be administered to the heir-apparent, Prince Boris, Prince of Tirnovo, according to the usages of the National Orthodox Church." The members of the Chamber then proceeded to the palace to congratulate Prince Ferdinand on his decision, and in his reply he said: "The West has pronounced its anathema against me. The morning light of the East illumines my dynasty and casts its rays over our future." On the same day the following significant official *communiqué* was published at St. Petersburg:—

"When the Imperial Government recalled its agents from the principality of Bulgaria in 1886, it declared, in an official announcement dated November 28, that this measure did not imply the rupture of the ties uniting the two countries. Bulgaria owes her existence to Russia and to the efforts and sacrifices made by the Russian people. The Imperial Government, therefore, could not give up its lively interest in all that relates to the political life of the Bulgarian nation, to its situation in the present, and its destinies in the future. We have many times declared that we were only waiting for the moment when the Bulgarians would recognise the necessity of a return to a better course of policy, in order to commit the past to oblivion, and to bring about the re-establishment of our relations with the principality on the basis of mutual confidence, and to the exclusion of every selfish aim.

"The great step in this direction has just been taken. Prince Ferdinand, in a letter addressed to his Majesty the Emperor, has requested that a special representative of Russia should be sent to Sofia to attend the ceremony of the reception of Prince Boris into the Orthodox Church. Three years ago, on learning that the men then in power in Bulgaria intended to demand from the Sobranyé the abrogation of Article 38 of the Constitution of Tirnovo, which guaranteed that the princely house should belong to the Orthodox Faith, the Imperial Government thought fit to protest against such an innovation.

In its *communiqué* of February 21, 1893, it warned all Bulgarians, without distinction of party, of 'the danger threatening a nation which was ready to renounce its most sacred and ancient traditions.' The voice of Russia, which is ever compassionate for the sufferings and troubles of an Eastern nation of the same faith as herself, found an echo in the heart of the latter people. The Bulgarian nation, as also the statesmen placed at its head, have understood the necessity of strengthening and consolidating in the country the authority of the Orthodox Faith, a surety for the spiritual ties uniting indissolubly Russia and the Bulgaria which she emancipated. This fact has produced throughout Russia a feeling of marked satisfaction, and the Emperor, inspired with sentiments of magnanimity and sincere good-will for the Bulgarian people, has granted the request of Prince Ferdinand in delegating Major-General Count Golenistcheff-Kutuzoff, of his staff, to attend, in his name, the ceremony in which the young Prince Boris will receive the Sacrament of holy unction."

The ceremony took place on the date fixed, and was attended by the representatives of Turkey as well as of Russia. There was now no further obstacle to the recognition of Prince Ferdinand, which was duly effected by all the Powers, and the object for which he had so long striven was thus at length attained, though by means which were somewhat questionable. In March the Prince had an audience of the Sultan, at which he was very cordially received, and he then proceeded to St. Petersburg, where he was entertained at a state banquet by the Emperor and Empress and had long interviews with the Foreign Minister. On his return he entered into negotiations with the Russian Government on the proposal of the latter that the Bulgarian officers who had taken service with the Russian army in consequence of their being implicated in the kidnapping of Prince Alexander of Battenberg in 1886, or in conspiracies against the Government, should be allowed to return to Bulgaria and resume their places in the Bulgarian army. This proposal was strongly resisted by the military party in Bulgaria, and, combined with the increasing favour shown at court to the Russophile party, produced a ministerial crisis. M. Natchetvitch, Minister of Commerce and Agriculture, and Major-General Petroff, Minister of War, resigned; the resignation of the former was accepted, but the latter was persuaded to remain at his post pending a settlement of the question of the return of the Bulgarian emigrants. In the general election which took place in the autumn the Government achieved a great triumph, only fifteen members of the Opposition being returned.

The trial of the persons accused of the murder of M. Stambouloff took place at the end of the year. The most remarkable incidents of the trial were the production of a letter from M. Stambouloff dated March 16, 1895, giving full details of the plan of his assassination, and naming one of the accused,

Nauma Tufektchieff, as a leader of the band which was to commit the crime; and the appearance before the tribunal of M. Stambouloff's widow. The latter addressed the court in the following terms:—

“You have insisted on my presence and I am here. I have nothing to say, because I do not see arraigned before your honourable court those who are known to be the real assassins of my late husband. You know them, Mr. President, and you, too, Mr. Procurator-General. Is it not so? You know them, as all the world does. Where are they? I do not see them. Acquit these miserable people, and summon before you the really guilty men, who are the present Government. I have nothing to add, and I will now withdraw.”

These words, which were spoken with a firm voice and a determined tone, produced a deep impression on the audience in court, which was composed mainly of people of the higher rank of society. Neither the presiding judge, nor the public prosecutor, nor the counsel for the defence asked Madame Stambouloff any question. The general view, indeed, was that she had hit the mark, and this seems also to have been the impression of the tribunal, for it only sentenced the accused to short terms of imprisonment.

The visits exchanged during the summer between the rulers of Bulgaria, Servia, and Montenegro led to the supposition that the old plan of a Balkan alliance was being revived, but no definite announcement was made on the subject. Prince Nicholas of Montenegro's speech, however, at the dinner given to him at Belgrade pretty clearly indicated his desire to unite with Servia for the purpose of recovering the territories inhabited by Servians which were still under the rule of Turkey. “All Servians,” he said, “are with us in spirit. Their wishes are also our wishes. Our people do not want anything that does not belong to them, but only what is their right. When we have once got our own, we shall be ardent co-operators with other happy nations in progress and civilisation. These just aspirations of ours must be sympathised with by all nations which are already united. They are supported by our northern brothers, and promoted by our Bulgarian friends.”

The position of Montenegro was greatly raised in the estimation of the smaller Balkan States by the marriage of the Italian Crown Prince to Prince Nicholas's daughter, Princess Helena, in October. Before her marriage the princess was “converted” to the Roman Catholic religion.

The powers of the Œcumenical patriarch at Constantinople, who claims ecclesiastical jurisdiction over all members of the so-called Orthodox Church, were the subject of constant disputes this year between Servia, the Porte, and Greece. Bulgaria had for some years freed herself from his ecclesiastical supremacy, by inducing the Porte to appoint a Bulgarian exarch as the head of the Bulgarian branch of the “Orthodox”

Church, and Roumania was this year equally successful in becoming independent of the patriarchate. Serbia strove to follow her example, but was bitterly opposed by Greece, who feared to lose her influence in Macedonia. A Greek, Monsignor Ambrosius, was appointed metropolitan of the Servian district of Ueskub in that province, and the Servian Government addressed a strong protest to the Porte against the appointment. The Porte, however, hesitated to interpose between the contending parties, and the patriarch and the Holy Synod were strongly disinclined to take any step which might result in the supremacy over the "Orthodox" Church passing from the Greeks to the Slavs.

Parties in Serbia had to be reorganised at the beginning of the year owing to the dissolution of the Progressive party, which was founded by M. Garashanin in 1881, and was at first supported by all the educated classes in the country. In foreign politics it was opposed to Russia and friendly to Austria, but the philo-Russian tendencies which now prevailed in Serbia, as in the other smaller Balkan States, made its further existence impossible. The Novakovitch Ministry was thus freed from some of its opponents, but its demonstrative attitude in favour of Russia caused so much offence in Austria that the King, who wished to be freed from foreign complications in order to carry out a revision of the Constitution, called upon it to resign. A new Cabinet was appointed on December 29, under the leadership of M. Simitch, a moderate Radical.

The meeting between the Emperor of Austria and the King of Roumania on the occasion of the opening of the Iron Gates of the Danube was the crowning point of the successes of the latter country, both in its home and its foreign policy. Roumanian finance was in a most satisfactory condition, and the Roumanian army was far superior both in numbers and efficiency to those of the other Balkan States. The dynasty had been secured by the birth of a son to the Crown Prince; a railway bridge over the Danube, the largest which spans that noble river, had been opened to connect the Roumanian railway system with the new Black Sea port of Costanza; and from that port a regular line to Constantinople was already running, and, in connection with the Orient Express, considerably shortened the distance for passengers and goods between the West of Europe and the East, compared with the line *viâ* Varna, besides being the cheapest route to Constantinople. Further, the relations of the country with both Russia and Austria were very friendly, and diplomatic intercourse with Greece was resumed. At the beginning of December there was a change of Ministry, M. Stourdza being succeeded as Premier by M. Aurelian. The new Ministry, like the old, belonged to the Liberal party, but the former had to resign in consequence of the riots caused by the arbitrary dismissal of the Primate, Monsignor Ghenadie Petresco.

Greece was entirely absorbed throughout the year by her sympathies with her fellow-countrymen in Crete. In May the Government addressed a note to the Powers disclaiming all responsibility for the assistance given by its subjects to their countrymen in Crete, on the ground that the Porte had shown itself powerless to prevent the renewal of disturbances in that island. In reply, the Greek Government was warned against interfering in the conflict in Crete, and was urged not to send a Greek squadron there, as this might exasperate the Mussulman population. Supplies and volunteers, however, including several officers of the Greek Army, continued to proceed from Greece to Crete and Macedonia, notwithstanding the efforts of the Greek Government to stop them. On December 6 the King addressed a message to the Premier, stating that experience had demonstrated the necessity of holding manœuvres with larger bodies of men than heretofore; that a permanent camp should be established at which the Army would be able to devote itself entirely to military instruction; that the reserves should be called out for service with the colours, so as to constitute a force of 12,900 men; and that a commission of superior officers should be appointed to select a new rifle for the Army. Immigrants from Crete continued to pour into the country, and public opinion grew more and more agitated in consequence of the accounts they gave of outrages committed by the Turks on the Christians in the island.

CHAPTER IV.

MINOR STATES OF EUROPE.

I. BELGIUM.

NOTWITHSTANDING the assurances of the Minister of War, the pressing question of Army reform made but little progress during the year. Military service in Belgium from the outset had been based upon conscription, combined with the power of substitution. The payment of a certain sum of money could in all cases obtain the service of a recruit, and in this way wealth became synonymous with freedom from military service. Of recent years the outcry against this privilege had been growing louder and louder, and efforts were made to introduce the system of compulsory personal service. It was not suggested by any of the reformers to widen the basis of the Belgian Army so as to include all the able-bodied men of the nation. The ballot was to be maintained as before, but the drawers of unlucky numbers would have to serve instead of being allowed to purchase substitutes. The Government for the two previous years had specifically announced a bill in this sense in their sessional programme. It was therefore with some surprise that, at the commencement of this year, the Ministry brought for-

ward and carried a short measure increasing from ten to thirty francs the monthly allowance payable to all soldiers on service whose parents paid less than fifty francs per annum in direct taxes. It at once suggested itself to the majority of the Liberal party that this proposal indefinitely postponed the abolition of substitution. It was obvious that, in the event of the principle of personal service being brought forward, the remuneration of all soldiers called up would be impossible, so that the adoption of the personal service would involve the withdrawal of the allowance. By these means, therefore, a very considerable body of electors, of all classes and conditions, were brought to look upon the question of substitution from a very personal point of view. Those to whom the family allowance was of no consequence anticipated that the first outcome of the proposed reform would, on the one hand, raise the price of substitutes, and, on the other, the increased contingent would add a very material cost to the budget, necessitating the increase of existing taxes. This sudden change in the attitude of the Minister of War was received with general surprise both in the country and in the Army. In the Chamber no explanation could be extracted from the chief of the Cabinet, who, on being challenged to produce the promised bill for a more equitable division of military charges, replied that the Government would take its own time to redeem its pledges.

It should however be added that the War Minister, General Brassine, persisted in the hope that his colleagues would support him in carrying out the reforms on which his heart was set. At the beginning of the autumn session he placed on the table of the Chamber a Military Re-organisation Bill, of which the leading features were personal service, shortened service with the colours, and an increase of the annual contingent. Before introducing his bill, General Brassine had publicly asserted that these reforms had been approved by the Cabinet, and his statement had been neither challenged nor qualified by any of his colleagues; he had good ground for supposing that his bill would be forthwith taken up and passed. To the general surprise, however, the country learned through the indirect channel of the official press that it had been decided to abandon all idea of military re-organisation on the basis of an increased contingent and personal service. General Brassine at once tendered his resignation; and, although efforts were made both by the King and his colleagues to induce him to re-consider his determination, he declined to associate himself with the bad faith of the Cabinet. The example given by General Brassine was endorsed by his military colleagues, and each general in succession, who was approached by the Prime Minister, declined to associate himself with a party which had acted so disingenuously with regard to a vital question for the Army. Finally, M. Vanderpeereboom, the Minister of Railways, was persuaded to take over the direction of the War Office.

But if the Government showed reluctance in dealing with the Army at large, they displayed great anxiety to place the Civic Guard on an improved footing. They, therefore, brought in a bill, according to which the Civic Guard was to be constituted into a first line of reserve, after the model of the German *Landwehr*, with this distinction, that in times of peace the corps would be under the control of the Home Office. This was requisite from the fact that the corps discharged the double duty of maintaining order in the towns, although in time of war it would share with the Army the duty of protecting the independence of the country. At the close of the year the prospects of the bill were not hopeful, for in the discussions in committee a considerable opposition was raised by various sections.

General Brassine's retirement, although the most serious blow to the Cabinet, was not the only loss it experienced. At an earlier date M. de Burlet, who had been its titular chief as well as Minister of Foreign Affairs, was forced to retire on the ground of ill-health. His place at the Foreign Office was taken by M. de Favereau, and M. de Smet de Naeyer, Minister of Finance, succeeded to the Presidency of the Council.

The partial renewal of one-half of the Chamber of Representatives in the month of July had strengthened rather than weakened the ministerial position. Of the out-going seventy-seven members (representing five provinces), sixty-six were Catholics of various shades, ten Liberals or Radicals, and one Socialist. After a keenly contested campaign, the Catholics returned increased by six, having carried seventy-two seats, all of which they won from the Liberals—the single Socialist maintaining his solitary distinction. The most important Catholic victory was at Brussels, where the Radical-Socialist coalition was defeated on the second ballot by a majority of 15,000; the candidates of the Moderate Liberals having been struck out after the first ballot. The result of this election was to give fresh impetus to the principle of proportionate representation, which had long found steady support in Belgium. Taking into account all the votes polled for the seventy-seven seats, it showed that whilst 495,613 Catholic votes returned seventy-two representatives, 161,777 Liberals could only seat a single member, although 124,381 Radicals and Socialists were represented by four.

The city of Brussels—in addition to the excitement produced by the parliamentary elections—passed through a civic crisis of considerable importance. The recent communal elections had produced a municipality in which the Catholics, Radical-Socialists, and Liberals formed three well-marked groups, of which the last named was considerably the most numerous, although it did not equal in numbers the other two combined. In the course of debate, a Socialist councillor proposed that for all workmen employed by the municipality a minimum rate of wages should be in force. The highly esteemed burgomaster,

M. de Buls, at once explained that in the actual condition of the city funds the adoption of any such recommendation was absolutely impossible, and, moreover, it was, he said, opposed to the views of the Administrative Committee (*Collège Echevinal*). By a coalition of the Catholics and Socialists the proposal was nevertheless carried, whereupon the Administrative Committee at once tendered their resignation. The difficulties of the situation at once became apparent. The Liberals who had opposed the measure were obviously in a minority, and consequently were unable to take upon themselves the direction of affairs; but at the same time the Catholics on the one hand and the Socialists on the other were in the same plight—when acting independently of each other. The deadlock lasted for some time to the manifest detriment of the city Government, but at length in deference to the unanimous wish of the population of Brussels, and in view of a formal assurance from the coalition that its vote on the wages minimum was not to be regarded as a mark of want of confidence, M. de Buls and his friends consented to resume the administration of the communal affairs of the capital. Beside the practical question involved, the relative value of direct and proportional representation in giving effect to the popular Will was then brought into evidence. In the parliamentary elections, the vagaries of direct representation had been conclusively shown, but the communal elections—where proportional representation was recognised—had produced altogether similar results, and a similar inability to produce a working majority, composed from a single party.

A characteristic incident which threw a curious light upon the worth of the noisy declamations of the Socialists occurred about this period at Ghent. An important Socialist co-operative society in that city, the Vooruit, was charged by one of its own party organs with practising towards its workmen the same rigorous treatment and abuses which Socialists denounced in the employers. It was moreover proved that the managers of the Vooruit continued to retain, and for political purposes, a percentage on every workman's wage, in express violation of a law which had been passed at the instance of the Labour representatives. The managing director of the Vooruit, M. Anseele, a Socialist deputy, the most eager promoter of the law, was consequently charged with being the first to break it. To the very general satisfaction of the parties alike he was convicted, but in view of the high esteem which he personally enjoyed, his sentence was merely nominal. By a strange contradiction the workman who had brought to light the malpractices of the directors of the Vooruit was expelled by his comrades from the society as well as from the Socialist club of which he was a member. This ostracism coincided moreover with the indignant protests raised in the Chamber by Socialist members against certain employers who were suspected of

having dismissed workmen for having voted against their masters' wishes.

The trial of Captain Lothaire for his complicity in the murder of an English trader in the Congo State occupied a good deal of public attention. The case had been originally tried at Boma, where after hearing Captain Lothaire's defence, the Public Prosecutor had abandoned the charge and the Belgian officer was acquitted. Mr. Stokes, however, the murdered man, was not without friends in his own country, and the British Vice-Consul, who represented them at the trial, appealed against the finding of the court, according to which Stokes had not only failed to contradict the charges brought against him, but had admitted having supplied arms and ammunition to Arab chiefs with whom the Congo State was at war. After some doubt as to the tribunal before which the appeal could be argued, the case was remitted to the judicial section of the Council of State for the Congo. After a careful investigation of the case by the Belgian authorities Captain Lothaire was again put on his trial, which was marked by the singularly apologetic attitude of the Public Prosecutor. Captain Lothaire's acquittal was a foregone conclusion, and the authorities of the Congo State found themselves in the awkward predicament of having paid a large indemnity to the family of a man whom the court declared to have been justly punished for conspiring against the interests of the state.

II. THE NETHERLANDS.

The much-discussed and long-deferred question of electoral reform received its final solution during the year. The Second Chamber of the States General by 56 to 43 votes agreed to the adoption of a scheme by which the number of electors would in future be doubled. The First Chamber offered no obstacle to the passing of the bill, which received the sanction of the Queen Regent; and it was decided that it should come into operation in the following year. The special feature of the new bill was that qualification for the franchise was determined partly by the amount of taxes paid by each voter, and partly by his intellectual capacity. Thus all Dutch citizens of the age of twenty-five years and upwards were to be esteemed as qualified voters who had passed any sort of professional examination, without regard to their position as taxpayers. At the same time all Dutch citizens of twenty-five years and upwards were also qualified to vote without regard to their education, provided that on March 1 of each year preceding the election they had paid the direct (household) taxes to the state, or had paid a minimum of one florin per annum for land tax; or, without being householders, had occupied as lodgers for six months one or two sets of rooms, for which they had paid a weekly rent varying from 80 cents to 2 florins 50 cents, according to the locality; all

who were in receipt of wages ranging from 275 to 560 florins per annum from the same employer during one year; all persons in receipt of pensions (within the same limits) from some public institution; and, finally, all who on a given date preceding the election were inscribed as state stock-holders to the amount of 100 florins, or possessed that sum in the Post Office Savings Bank. All persons in receipt of public assistance, wholly or partial, were disfranchised, except in the case of those receiving free education for their children and free medical advice—but medical remedies, if supplied gratuitously, disqualified the recipient.

Some few changes were imposed upon the candidates for election, who had to be nominated before the election by forty electors at least. In the event of a single candidate coming forward, he would be elected without the formality of a ballot. In contested elections the list of candidates was to be drawn up by the burgomaster and forwarded by him to each elector, advising him at the same time of the day in which the election would take place—Sundays and legal holidays being alone excluded.

The elements of domestic discord, which on several occasions had troubled the citizens of many towns, were on the whole absent throughout the year. The dockers at Rotterdam on more than one occasion went out on strike, and conducted themselves with such violence as to require the intervention of the troops to restore order and to preserve the freedom of the non-strikers. The diamond cutters of Amsterdam, who had sustained a prolonged strike during the previous year, came to a satisfactory understanding with their employers. A convention for six months provisionally was signed between the representatives of both interests, according to which the masters agreed to maintain the existing scale of wages, but at the same time declared that they would irrevocably dismiss any member of the trade union who, so long as the convention might be in force, should provoke, favour or support any strike which should not have been brought about by a reduction in the accepted scale of wages.

Possibly the comparative peaceableness of the Labour party in the Netherlands during the year may have been in some measure due to divided counsels. Two rival bodies, the Social Democratic Workmen's party and the Socialistenbond, or Federation of Socialists, alternately swayed the masses of the great towns. Of the latter body M. Damala-Nieuvenhuys was the ruling spirit, and it was through his influence that its separation had been effected. As far back as 1894, at the Socialist Congress held at Groningen, a resolution had been passed by the narrow majority of seven votes preventing the expenditure of the funds of the society upon election contests; although no restrictions were placed upon individual members to act as they pleased. The minority who dissented from this

decision thereupon founded the Workmen's Social Democratic Society of the Netherlands, of which the paramount object was to organise the party for political action, and to capture political power for the working classes. This programme, however, did not readily commend itself to the majority of the Dutch workmen, who continued to give the Socialistenbond their best support.

The course of foreign politics ran throughout the year with its customary smoothness, and it was with absolute truth that, at the opening of the session of the States General, the Queen Regent could speak of her amicable relations with all foreign potentates. This, however, did not prevent a member of the Second Chamber from raising during the debate on the address an important discussion on the so-called "friendly" relations with Turkey, in the course of which he denounced the idea of maintaining such relations with a sovereign who had tolerated the massacres of Christians, and whose Mussulman subjects deserved to be expelled from Europe. The sentiment found an echo in many breasts. The Minister for Foreign Affairs protested against the use of such language towards a friendly Power, more especially as from their place in the counsels of Europe they took no part in the action of the Great Powers, but were restricted to protecting the rights of Dutch subjects.

At Atchin, where for the past twenty-three years the Dutch had kept up an intermittent warfare with the indomitable natives, the condition of affairs showed few signs of improvement. Several attacks were made by the natives which led to reprisals, and the secession of a friendly native ruler with a large supply of arms impelled the home authorities to replace the civil and military governor, General Deykerhof, by General Vetter, who in 1894 had conducted a successful campaign in Lombok. On succeeding to the command, General Vetter at once assumed the offensive, and commenced a vigorous campaign against the native strongholds. Up to the close of the year the traitor chief had eluded his pursuit, and had succeeded in carrying off the arms to a place of security. The Bataks, a warlike tribe inhabiting the centre of Sumatra, and a portion of the inhabitants of the island of Lombok, endeavoured to rise against the Dutch rule, but their efforts were promptly repressed.

In the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, the most important event from an economical point of view was the revision of the spirit duties, by which the receipts for the first year were increased by more than 1,000,000 francs, equal to one-eighth of the total revenue. The budget for the year 1896-7 in consequence showed a surplus of 2,500,000 francs. No decision was taken as to the absolute disposal of this surplus, but public opinion tended towards the creation of a Local Loans Fund, upon which the communes could draw for sums necessary to carry out improvements without having recourse to loans and increased rates. Under certain conditions it was further

suggested advances might be made to relieve communes from the burden of excessive rates. Another proposal was to employ the surplus in reducing the land tax from 8 to 6 per cent., and in freeing altogether land taxed at less than five francs per annum. In all probability the latter plan would have been adopted had it not been found that it involved a political consideration which could not be disregarded. The electorate of the Grand Duchy being limited to taxpayers of fifteen francs per annum, a large number of voters would have been disfranchised by the freeing of their property. As an alternative a proposal was put forward, and was still under discussion at the close of the year, reducing the electoral qualification to ten francs, the lowest sum recognised by the Constitution.

The revision of the Railway Convention with Germany passed in 1872, a vital question for the Grand Duchy, was very nearly brought to a settlement. By the Treaty of Frankfort, the French Eastern Railway was forced to cede its rights of working the Luxemburg railways to the Elsass-Lothringen section of the German imperial railway system. The latter moreover subsequently acquired the reversionary interest of the French Eastern Railway, and at the same time the Grand Duchy consented to the prolongation of the Zollverein until 1912, at which date the lease of the railways would revert to the Grand Duchy. The anticipations of the latter, however, were wholly falsified by circumstances which could not have been foreseen at the time when these arrangements were sanctioned, and for which the German Administration was in no sense responsible. Instead of receiving substantial dividends from the profits of the railway, it appeared inevitable that the Grand Duchy in 1912 would have to pay to Germany upwards of 12,000,000 frs. The Grand Duchy naturally protested against a prospective liability which was never anticipated by either of the contracting parties, and Germany, recognising the justice of the complaint, consented to a revision of the convention of 1872, but its terms, were not actually arranged when the year closed.

III. SWITZERLAND.

The growth of antagonism between an important section of public opinion and the Federal Council, of which notice was made in the previous year (see "Annual Register," 1895, p. 306), was the dominant feature of Swiss politics. Now, as then, the centralising policy of the Government was the source of widespread discontent, but to this was now added the charge that the state authorities were more than ever under the influence of the Socialist faction of the Extreme Radicals. This antagonism showed itself on several occasions during the year, but especially on military questions.

The Swiss military system, admirable in many respects,

offered little inducement to those who looked upon the Army as offering a career, and it was consequently difficult to find officers who united to the various qualifications necessary for the higher commands the support and confidence of their subordinates. Recently, the appointments to the higher posts in the Army had manifestly been made on political or even personal considerations, wholly regardless of the requirements of the service. This state of things was so notorious that it was the principal reason for which the National Council rejected by a crushing majority the Army reform prepared by the Government. Notwithstanding this serious warning, the Federal Council this year again showed its contempt of the needs of the Army and of public opinion by disregarding in the most marked manner the rules laid down for preventing nominations by favour to high military posts. The law enacted that the Federal Council should make its selections from a list of candidates chosen by a committee composed of the chief of the military departments, the chief of the branch in which the promotion was to be made, and the colonel commanding the *corps d'armée* to which the vacant post was attached. At the beginning of the year the command of a cavalry brigade having fallen vacant, a duly qualified candidate, supported in accordance with the legal requirements, was rejected by the Federal Council. The Military Committee maintained its nomination; but the Federal Council, putting it on one side, named an officer of its own selection. In face of this rebuff, nothing remained but for the three members of the committee to tender their resignation. Although public opinion was unanimously on the side of the military officers, the Federal Council held to its decision, and shortly afterwards laid before the Assembly a bill for the enforcement of military reorganisation, in which was included a proposal to make the chief of the War Office commander-in-chief in time of peace. This proposal not only opened the door to every kind of misunderstanding as to the limits of civil and military responsibility, but was in direct opposition to the existing law. Public opinion on this occasion took the form of a demand for a referendum, signed by upwards of 70,000 persons, and the proposal when put to the vote was rejected by every canton and by 310,992 against 77,169 votes.

On the same day the people were invited to express their opinion upon certain agricultural questions, relating chiefly to the cattle trade. The law in itself was an unimportant one, but it had been warmly pressed by the Federal Council, so that its rejection by a majority of 34,238 votes on a referendum was important as evidence of the widespread discontent at the policy of the Government.

The Federal Council, however, on a third appeal to the people, was able to score a very substantial triumph. The question was one concerning the accounts to be rendered by the railways in anticipation of their eventual purchase by the

Confederation. The question had raised much debate both in and out of the Assembly, and its ultimate adoption was principally due to the energy of M. Zemp, the only Catholic member of the Federal Council, and the author of the proposal. He succeeded in carrying with him, in the appeal to the people, a large body of co-religionists who out of regard for party discipline were prepared to put aside their personal views, and consequently the law was passed by 223,228 to 176,577 votes.

On another question which touched the interests of a large body of citizens, that of the establishment of a State Bank, the Federal Council was able to have its way in the Chambers, the National Council adopting the proposal by 83 to 49 votes, and the State Council endorsing it by 20 to 17 votes, with three abstentions. This narrow result made another referendum necessary, and 80,000 opponents of the scheme were soon found to demand this appeal, which was to take place early in the following year. The trial of strength, of which it would be difficult to predict the issue, was between two distinct groups—the Federalists and the “Cantonals”—rather than a struggle between political parties, for Radicals, Liberals, Catholics and Socialists were divided on the question.

The autumn elections for the renewal of the National Council modified in a very slight degree the existing composition of the Chamber. The Centre, comprising Conservatives and Moderate Liberals, lost six seats, which fell in equal proportion to the Radicals and the Extreme Right. The result, however, revived the interest in proportional representation, and the supporters of that system took the opportunity to bring it so prominently forward during the election that its discussion by the Chamber during the following session was practically assured.

IV. SPAIN.

Spain in the course of the year passed through more troubles than ordinarily fall to the lot of kingdoms. The insurrection in Cuba, serious from the outbreak, entered upon a phase not only menacing for Spanish authority in the West Indies, but dangerous for the mother country in view of the attitude taken up by the United States. In the Eastern Archipelago the racial struggle in the Philippines was marked by the usual horrors of such conflicts; whilst at home the Anarchists were guilty of the most atrocious outrages. At the same moment the Carlists once more showed that their hopes were not yet extinguished, and to add to all these trials, inundations far exceeding those of past years ravaged vast districts of the unfortunate kingdom.

It was impossible to disguise the fact that Marshal Martinez Campos' command in Cuba had seriously damaged the Spanish cause. The question of his recall was violently discussed (Jan. 16) in a council of the ministers. His chief supporters, the

Duke of Tetuan, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Señor Navarro Reverter, Minister of Finance, maintained that the marshal could not be recalled without detriment to the honour of Spain, and that all that was needed was to invite him to personally take command of the operations against the rebels. A brisk interchange of telegrams between Madrid and Havannah resulted in the unanimous decision of the Cabinet to supersede the unfortunate marshal, his former colleague, the Duke of Tetuan, having chosen to sacrifice his office to his friendship, and three generals who had served under him resigned their commands and returned to Spain. The portfolio of Foreign Affairs was at once given to Señor Elduyaen, and little difficulty was found in the selection of a new commander-in-chief in Cuba. The name of Lieutenant-General Weyler, who had brought the previous insurrection in that island to a close, was at once put forward. He had made short work of the Anarchists at Barcelona, and on other occasions he had given proof of his stern powers of repression. Within ten days of his appointment he sailed from Cadiz (Jan. 28), accompanied by six generals selected by himself for their special qualifications.

General Weyler's nomination was the signal for the display of ill-will on the part of the United States. The Committee on Foreign Affairs sanctioned the introduction of a resolution inviting the Cabinet of Washington to mediate in the name of humanity between Spain and Cuba. This act produced a violent explosion of patriotic feeling in Spain, of which Marshal Martinez Campos had in some degree to bear the brunt. He was bitterly reproached with having beguiled his countrymen with false hopes, and he was reminded of the contrast between his promises on accepting the command and the state of affairs on relinquishing it. The once popular marshal on debarking at Coruña was received with marked coldness, and at Madrid (Feb. 4) he was loudly hooted in the streets. An unfortunate accident to one of the crowd nearly brought matters to a crisis, and the body was carried about to excite popular indignation. The marshal's own conduct in blaming the Ministry as the cause of his own non-success was also adversely commented on, and the situation was not improved by his attempt to deny the accuracy of the statement attributed to him.

The month of February was not allowed to pass without its republican demonstration (Feb. 26). The representatives of the Catalan Democracy, the republican deputies for Barcelona, on their arrival at Madrid to attend the Federalist Congress were met by an enthusiastic crowd—whilst at the same time the body of the victim of the previous day was accompanied to the cemetery by upwards of 10,000 persons, who insisted upon the funeral service being said in Spanish instead of Latin.

The attitude taken up by the United States had the inevitable result of arousing patriotic feeling in the provinces which at times amounted to uproar. The university students at

Madrid, Barcelona and Granada were especially turbulent, and it was found advisable to close the schools and disperse the students, who at any moment might have attacked the American consulates. At the same time the Government was busy in mobilising the fleet and in increasing its strength; whilst the Colonial Bank and the Bank of Barcelona, by advancing 160,000,000 pesetas to the Government, made it possible to keep the work going for several months.

The Cuban insurrection not only complicated the political situation of Spain but weighed heavily upon the policy of the home Government, which had to face the ordeal of a general election. By one of those paradoxes in which Spanish politics were ever fertile, the Conservative Government, under the leadership of Don Canovas del Castillo, was carrying on public affairs by means of the Cortes elected under the Liberal party of Señor Sagasta. The new Ministry felt it necessary to observe the traditions of the past and to support itself in the Cortes by a majority of its own way of thinking. But the state of affairs in Cuba seemed an insuperable objection to holding a general election, inasmuch as the most burning question to be brought before the new Cortes would be the reforms to be effected and the concessions to be made in that island, as soon as its pacification had been achieved, whilst in the actual condition of affairs it was obviously impossible to call upon the electors of Cuba to send deputies to the Spanish Chamber.

In spite, however, of this dilemma Señor Canovas decided that the elections should take place, and from the beginning of the year the Liberal press was insisting upon the necessity of an appeal to the people. As had often happened the Cabinet soon found itself captured by its own supporters, and after some hesitation the Government decided to dissolve the Cortes (Feb. 28), and the new elections were fixed to take place six weeks later. They were marked by more than usual energy on the part of the agents of the Government, and even at Madrid the supporters of Señors Romero, Robledo and Bosch united to oppose the candidature of the Marquis de Cabrinaña. On such occasions the rule was to allow a certain number of seats to the Opposition, but in the heat and excitement of the contest this traditional courtesy was forgotten. Some explanation of this conduct might be found in the serious differences between the various groups of Conservatives. Thus the friends of Señor Canovas were not partisans of Señor Silvela; Señor R. Robledo had a small band of followers, whilst Señor H. Pidal had gathered round him a group of rich industrials, bankers and landowners, who were all anxious to find seats in Parliament. When these demands had been satisfied there remained few seats which were available for members of the Opposition. Moreover, as it was scarcely decent to exclude from the Chamber Señor Sagasta's more intimate friends and

those of the Constitutional Left, the other shades of Liberal opinion were ignored, but the Carlists, who held aloof from all combinations, found their opportunity, and secured several seats.

The Carlist party, in fact, had once more sprung to life. At the beginning of the year they had scattered broadcast a pamphlet signed by a monk named Barbato, but in reality revised by the heads of the free Catholic University of Bilbao and the editor of the clerical journal *El Vasco*. Following the example set in bygone years by the French Orleanists, the Carlist pamphleteer threw doubts upon the legitimacy of Alfonso XII. The author was arrested and imprisoned, but nevertheless those who inspired him continued their underhand work. Notwithstanding the express injunctions of the Pope, they refused to recognise the existing Government, and as they counted amongst their ranks the majority of the lower clergy and several bishops they were able to make a goodly array against the better class clergy, who were mostly Alfonsists. In an incredibly short time upwards of 300 juntas were gained over to the Carlist party; but, notwithstanding the eagerness of his supporters, the pretender managed to find an excuse for his inaction, although he was not wanting in chivalrous and patriotic excuses.

The Republicans, on the other hand, discouraged by dogmatic squabbles between the editors of rival newspapers, and having no longer a man of action at their head, withdrew from active participation in the elections. Moreover the seats upon which they might have reckoned were found to have been captured by the Socialists, with whom the trading class declined to have any connection.

The legislative session commenced (May 12) with the unopposed election of Señor Pidal as President of the Chamber, but the Liberals, who had given Señor Sagasta full power to demand the annulling of the Madrid and Cuban elections, in a trial of strength finding themselves in a hopeless minority indulged in a systematised course of obstruction lasting over more than six weeks.

Meanwhile the state of affairs in Cuba was growing steadily worse. The Council of War at Havannah had condemned to death certain prisoners who claimed to be citizens of the United States. General Weyler, recognising the necessities of the case, ordered them to be sent to Spain for trial; but at the same time he caused it to be known that if the sentences were not maintained by the Spanish courts he should throw up his command of the island. Very shortly afterwards a quarrel between General Borrero, commanding the Sixth Army Corps, and Marshal Campos, although in itself a heroico-burlesque incident, gave considerable trouble to the authorities. Every other matter was, however, temporarily forgotten in the general horror excited by a brutal Anarchist outrage. The object of their violence

was General Despuys, who had distinguished himself by his stern repression of more than one fanatical outbreak. Whilst taking part in a grand procession at Barcelona (June 2), a number of bombs were thrown, with the result of killing eight persons in the crowd and seriously injuring a large number of others, many of whom subsequently died. The authorities acted with marvellous promptitude, and 380 known Anarchists were at once arrested, and confined on board a man-of-war lying in the harbour, or in the dungeon of El Monjuich. The actual criminals were soon identified, and after a long trial eight of them, the number of the victims of the first day, were condemned to death. At the same time the Government demanded more stringent powers and a short bill was hurried through the Chamber (June 18). Under this bill, which was to be in force for four years, Anarchist propagandism and the concealment of plots were punished with death, whilst any attempt to defend them was to involve penal servitude for life.

The parliamentary session was prolonged far beyond its usual term in consequence of the dilatory proceedings of the minority in discussing the budget. The statement laid before the Cortes by Señor Navarro Reverter aroused bitter recriminations, the more so because this financier when in Opposition had been especially severe upon the expedients to which Señor Gamazo had had recourse. It was fully expected that the new Minister of Finance would make a fresh departure and discover some ingenious device for relieving the situation. Instead of this the minister's only proposals were an increased tax upon articles of consumption, the concession of the salt tax to a company, the prolongation of the tobacco monopoly for twenty-five years, and the mortgage to the Rothschilds of the produce of the Almaden quicksilver mines. These proposals aroused the indignation of some of the warmest supporters of the Government, which was accused (June 20) of letting the country slip into the humiliating financial condition of Turkey.

In view, however, of the pressing necessities of the situation, the discussion of these questions was adjourned, the Cortes meanwhile according the Government authority to pledge the public credit, and to alienate any disposable receipts. At the same time, the *modus vivendi* with Germany was prolonged, the Government having however promised the Catalan delegates that no further concessions should be made to German trade.

Simultaneously with the excited debates on the address in the Cortes, manifestations had taken place in the ports of Coruña and Ferrol in honour of the French fleet. The Government, however, had seen fit to depose the mayors of these towns in consequence of their having proposed as a toast—the Franco-Spanish Alliance. Señor Moret, an old Liberal minister, protested in the Cortes that Spain sought not the alliance of one or two nations, but of the whole of Europe against the Monroe doctrine, as expounded by President Cleveland. The

debate on the address, which was unduly protracted, showed that the Opposition, notwithstanding ministerial manoeuvres, could still reckon upon 77 votes against 203 supporters of the Government.

The Cuban question in one form or another was constantly cropping up, for the agents of the revolutionary party were active in both Paris and Madrid. The Minister of the Interior declined to give any information on the subject, on the ground that by so doing he would defeat the ends of justice. The watchfulness of the police, however, was unable to foresee and still less to prevent hostile demonstrations at the various ports where troops were embarked for Cuba. The discovery of a Republican plot at Barcelona, however, was prominently announced in the ministerial press, and numerous arrests were made, including that of Señor Esteranez, who during the short-lived Spanish Republic had filled the office of Minister of War. In the Chamber, nevertheless, the Ministry declined to give any information which could throw light upon the arrests. By this time also (Aug. 20) the heat had become intolerable, and the Opposition wearied out at length consented to the proposals with regard to the tobacco monopoly and the quicksilver mines. The Anarchists' Crimes Bill was also passed, and the session closed (Sept. 7) with a unanimous vote of thanks to the soldiers engaged in defending the integrity of the country.

The partial renewal of the general and provincial councils had naturally led to a good deal of excitement, but except at Barcelona and Valencia, where the Republicans were strong, public order was not seriously disturbed. The Carlists might, in fact, have given far more trouble to the Government had their pretender been prepared to act. Their organisation was widespread, their discipline great, their mind determined, and in point of numbers and resources they were better off than on several previous occasions. Don Carlos, however, refused to give the signal for action; although twenty-three bishops, assembled at Lugo, gave expression to their adherence to Queen Christina.

After so long a session, the vacation was extended beyond the ordinary limits. The return of the court to Madrid, moreover, was nearly marked by a terrible accident, for in passing through the province of Guipuzcoa an attempt was made to blow up the royal train by dynamite, but no damage was done, the plot having been discovered in time.

Financial troubles awaited the ministers on their return to the capital. The advances obtained on the tobacco and quicksilver monopolies were exhausted, and all ordinary sources of revenue seemed dry. At this point a group of Spanish bankers came forward and offered to guarantee a 5 per cent. loan of 300,000,000 pesetas, repayable in sixteen years, and secured on the customs revenue. This loan was so well engineered that it was made to appear in the light of an appeal to Spanish

patriotism. Bishops and bankers, priests and journalists put forth all their powers, and called upon their fellow-countrymen to save Cuba for Spain. The loan was a splendid success, and Señor Sagasta, in offering the Queen Regent the congratulations of the Liberal party, was able to announce the death of the prominent leader of the Cuban insurgents, Antonio Maceo. The news was received throughout Spain with the most extravagant rejoicing, which almost led to serious complications with the United States when a ship of that nationality arriving at Barcelona was received with such manifestations of ill-will that, by the advice of the American Consul, she continued her voyage to Italy. No further complications ensued—although the attitude of the United States Senate at the close of the year was full of menace to Spanish influence in the West Indies.

V. PORTUGAL.

The greater portion of the session of the Cortes, lasting from the beginning of the year to the month of May, was occupied with a delicate and difficult task. In the previous year, the Government having assumed dictatorial powers, it was necessary to regularise and modify the laws and decrees which had been promulgated during that period. Hence resulted for the kingdom three important reforms: constitutional, electoral and administrative.

The Cortes without demur gave its assent to the new method of recruiting the ranks of the Upper Chamber. The nomination of peers was left entirely to the King, subject to the advice of his Cabinet, but their numbers were to be limited. In the event of a conflict between the two Chambers, both would meet in congress and the matter in dispute was to be decided by the majority. The electoral reforms embraced the principle of "one man, one vote" in place of the "*scrutin de liste*" established by royal decrees. By similar decrees limits had been placed upon the right of the communes to raise loans or to impose taxes for administrative purposes. Very serious consequences had resulted to mining cities and boroughs from an unbridled liberty in such matters. The Liberal party protested vehemently against the restraints the Government proposed to impose, but the Ministry held to their point and were supported by the Cortes.

The reforms introduced by royal decree into the system of secondary instruction were, however, warmly welcomed by both Liberals and Conservatives. Professor Jayme-Moniz, who had been selected by the King to draw up a code, had taken the German system for his model, and covered the whole question, including that of female education. The measure on being explained to the Cortes was carried by acclamation after speeches by the leaders of the Government and of the Opposition.

The state of affairs in South Africa at the beginning of the year naturally aroused considerable interest in Portugal, and an attempt was made in the Chamber of Peers to obtain from the Government a declaration of policy. The President of the Council, Senhor Hintze Ribeiro, however, refused to be drawn into a debate on a matter on which Portugal should observe absolute neutrality, and in this view he was supported by the Chamber, which merely expressed satisfaction at the maintenance of peace in that country.

The Anarchists, who hitherto had not displayed much activity in Portugal, began to attract attention. A member of the body began by throwing stones at the King, when driving in his carriage. The man was arrested, but after medical examination was declared to be irresponsible for his acts. A few days later the doctor's house was wrecked by a bomb. Wholesale arrests followed (Feb. 5), and the Government at once brought in and rapidly passed a bill dealing with Anarchist outrages. It was soon found, however, that the existing police force was insufficient to carry out the measure, consequently the Minister of Justice, Senhor Azevedo Castello Branco, introduced a further bill (March 7) increasing the police force and giving the King exceptional powers for repressing the Anarchist propaganda.

Colonial questions were discussed on several occasions in both Chambers; and, in reply to Senhor Mariano Carvalho, the Minister of Foreign Affairs denied that there was any foundation for the report that a concession to Lourenzo Marques, acquired by German speculations, had been resold to their Government. An arrangement, however, was subsequently entered into between Portugal and the Transvaal Government, by which the former consented to the emigration of negroes from its territory to the Rand.

The financial situation of the country showed little sign of improvement, although in the budget for 1896-7 the deficit was made to disappear. This result the Minister of Finance hoped to achieve by a reduction of the rate of interest upon the National Debt. The Cortes supported the proposal—but the foreign bondholders, through their diplomatic agents, protested energetically against the scheme, which in the end was abandoned.

Strikes amongst the working classes and quarrels between the military and civilians were in the natural order of things—but a more serious matter was the terrible destitution which hung over the country. One of the naturally most fertile countries of Europe found itself at one moment forced to place its population on rations of bread, as in time of siege, and to import for its consumption 138,000,000 kilogrammes of corn.

In diplomacy Portugal could congratulate herself on being more successful than in finance or agriculture. The clouds which at one moment seemed to hang upon her relations with Great

Britain and Italy were dispersed, and at Rome, with which diplomatic relations had been suspended for some time, the Portuguese minister was cordially welcomed, and the Queen Dowager represented the House of Braganza at the marriage of the Prince of Naples.

VI. DENMARK.

During a series of years of constant and bitter political antagonism, the main points at issue naturally had forced all minor considerations into the background. This state of prolonged tension having at length come to an end, there followed, as usual, a period of calm, which, however, did not imply want of activity. On the contrary, political aspirations and legislative hopes and claims which had for years lain dormant in the greater political turmoil and strife began to revive. This phase of suspended activity nevertheless was not without suggestions of uncertainty and unsettledness. It was felt, probably on all sides, that the compromises arising out of the passing of the budget by the Folkething on April 1, 1894, had not furnished a basis of lasting stability, but that it was rather to be regarded as a transitory state of affairs. The effects of the reaction were also traceable in the slackened discipline of all political parties, more especially the Conservative, which felt that its relations to the Ministry had changed, and that it was no longer the old Estrup Government, which was nothing if not strictly and exclusively Conservative. The Reedtz-Thott Ministry very properly took up the position of a mediator between the parties, adopting a fair and sensible policy of mutual concession, the foremost aim of which was the making sure of the passing by the Rigsdag of a regular budget. Matters which were likely to cause renewed strife and discord were, therefore, as far as possible, left discreetly alone by the Ministry. This policy, however, did not prevent the Government introducing a number of useful and several important measures, more especially during the latter half of the year. Parliament, on re-assembling after the recess, set itself steadily to work, and both sides of the House showed a marked desire to get on with their business. The budget was passed in due course. It certainly was not marked by lavish expenditure, and ministers themselves grumbled at its economy, although they acquiesced in its restrictions. In any case it answered its purpose, and the very fact of a budget being passed without any great trouble or strain had a considerable moral effect and an unmistakably soothing influence upon the country at large. A portion of more or less ordinary routine work was got through, and the new Railway Tariff Bill was passed through its final stages. This was an important measure of a distinctly democratic nature, aiming at nothing less than to make Denmark the cheapest country in Europe as regards railway fares. It also introduced

new rates and regulations for goods, resulting in considerable facilities and reductions with regard to the forwarding of goods, more especially of agricultural produce. The important Schools Reform Bill took up much of the time of the Folkething, and aroused widespread interest and discussion. In framing this measure, the reciprocal desire of each party to meet the wishes of its opponents had materially advanced the prospects of the bill in the Joint-Committee to which it had been referred, the session being prolonged some two or three weeks in order to receive their report. On some two or three points, however, it was found impossible to bring about the necessary harmony, and the session closed without a report having been agreed upon. This result was a sore disappointment to many, and called forth numerous resolutions and petitions. The principal stumbling-block was the manner in which the appointment of teachers was to be made. The Opposition wished to vest the principal power in the local authorities, whilst the Government and its supporters were desirous of giving the State authorities a deciding voice in this matter. There were also divided opinions about the relations towards private schools, and as to the manner in which the School Managing Committees were to be formed. The session then closed (Apr. 20), without the Schools Bill having been passed, but in the autumn the reform party again introduced a new Schools Bill, which was in accordance with the views of the Opposition as expressed during the debate on the same subject in the earlier part of the year. The Folkething was not long in dealing with this bill, which was at once forwarded to the Landsting, where it was referred to a special committee, but where its prospects are not of the brightest.

Early in the new session, Parliament having met as usual on October 1, and been opened without any special ceremony, the Prime Minister, Baron Reedtz-Thott, made a statement in the Folkething. In reply to the recess speeches of several of the Opposition, he clearly defined the political position of the present Ministry. The statement was made during the debate on the Ways and Means Bill, and the Premier distinctly laid stress upon the point that he and his colleagues would consider their mission, or tenure of office, as ended, should a conflict arise between the two Chambers regarding the budget, which the ministers were unable to compromise. Danish ministers had not been in the habit of making many statements in the House, so that although Baron Reedtz-Thott's utterances were in perfect harmony with previously expressed opinions on his part and with what he would have been expected to say, his frank and open statement came as a considerable surprise. The Opposition press in some instances attempted to mildly ridicule it, but they were unable to make any valid objections, and there was no doubt that the Prime Minister by his speech removed much uncertainty on both sides of the House. In order to

meet the contingency of a final conflict between the Upper and the Lower Houses in the handling of the budget, the Reform party introduced a bill proposing a constitutional change, which really amounted to nothing less than its old claim of superiority of the Lower House in giving to the majority of the Second Chamber a power which was not shared by the First Chamber. A measure of this nature was at best only a futile demonstration, as there was no chance whatever of it ever becoming law.

A few days before Christmas the Minister of Finance introduced a new Tariff Bill, based upon the report of the Tariff Commission, introducing important reforms in the fiscal system. A bill dealing with a revised taxation of spirits was simultaneously laid before the House, and formed an integral part of the new scheme. The proposed alterations in the tariff all aimed at cheapening articles of necessity used by the masses. At the same time it was proposed to stimulate commerce and industry generally by reducing the duty on a number of important raw materials. To counterbalance this loss to the exchequer, the duty on articles of luxury was raised, and the tax on the manufacture of corn brandy was materially increased. It was all the more necessary to introduce alterations in the tariff legislation, as some of its provisions had become somewhat antiquated; and the rates imposed by it were in accordance with a coinage which had been abolished for at least five and twenty years. The new Tariff Bill undoubtedly favoured the agricultural class more than any other, for it substantially reduced the duties on coal, salt, tar and agricultural machinery. The advantages to the industrial classes were less evident, inasmuch as the protective duties hitherto levied were in many instances reduced. As, however, the bulk of the raw material used in manufactures would enjoy the benefit of a reduced tariff, there was reason to hope that Danish producers would find a wider market for their goods, and thrive the better on account of the tariff question having been settled, in all probability for many years to come. The proposed tariff was, on the whole, considered as a satisfactory solution of the fiscal question, although its immediate prospects were doubtless clouded by its being coupled with a proposed increase in the taxation of spirits, in order to cover part of the loss to the exchequer arising from the reduced custom revenue, and the proposed abolition of some land taxes. The Government proposal was to increase the tax to 90 öre (1s.) per litre of 100' per cent. alcoholic strength, which would mean a gain to the revenue of some 5,000,000 kr. Although this taxation was in itself very moderate, any increase in the tax on corn brandy was certain to be unpopular with the masses, and this bill imposing it was expected to delay the carrying of the Tariff Reform Bill. The Government at the same time foreshadowed other important fiscal reforms, especially in the

sense of direct taxation. They proposed to transfer part of the taxation on the land to the municipalities or parish corporations; one of the ground taxes being given over altogether, and others in part, the aggregate amount being some 6,000,000 kr. annually. It would, of course, be necessary to substitute other sources of revenue, and with this aim the Government had decided to impose a moderate income and capital tax; the former they fixed at $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. and the latter at 0·3 per mille. These two direct taxes were calculated to increase the revenue by 3,500,000 kr. and 1,500,000 kr. respectively. Although this would not altogether cover the deficit created by the surrender of the land tax, the Government thought the Exchequer was in such a satisfactory state that the difference would be made good from other sources of revenue. Moreover, the actual loss on the reformed tariff might prove far less than was anticipated. The Minister for Agriculture at the same time introduced into the Rigsdag bills intended to benefit both large landowners and persons desirous of securing small holdings. These measures were based upon the reports of the Agricultural Commission, and their main objects were to bring about a cheaper and more rational access to money for farmers and to improve the conditions of agricultural labourers by facilitating their being possessed of small lots of land. All these measures were symptomatic of new departures in Danish legislation, and all sprung from a desire of the Government to aid the less well-to-do classes, more especially in the rural districts, a policy to some extent traceable to the widespread agrarian agitation. It was natural that the Ministry by such measures improved its relations with the Democratic party in the House; and although the Government was distinctly Conservative, much of that bitterness, not to say enmity, which characterised the Opposition's dealings with its predecessors in office, gradually vanished.

Within the Conservative party there were unusual if not altogether unexpected signs of dissension. It was distinctly divided into two groups—the young, which had M. Jacob Scovenius, for many years Minister of Public Worship in the Estrup Ministry, for its chief, and the less extreme section, of which M. L. Dinesen was the accepted leader. At the commencement of the year it looked as if the former would be able to exercise the greater influence within the party. M. Scovenius was nominated the Conservative candidate at the Valby bye-election (Feb. 25), and the election campaign was carried on with quite unusual heat and energy. M. Scovenius was, however, unacceptable to some of the Conservative electors, and was defeated. The effect upon the Conservative party was considerable, and proved a serious check for M. Scovenius's followers. They, however, did not give in, but continued their controversy with the rival faction in the daily press and at public meetings with much energy and temper. Their hope

was to supersede M. Dinesen at the ordinary annual meeting of Conservative delegates, and it certainly at one time looked as if they would gain their point. But the Conservative members of the Rigsdag came to the rescue of their colleague, M. Dinesen being a member of the Folkething, having been elected prior to the split in the party. They brought considerable pressure to bear upon many of the delegates in order to keep the dissension within as narrow a compass as possible, and prevent it from extending to the Rigsdag. The only question upon which the Conservative voters were divided at one or two elections arose out of the agrarian movement, but all its supporters, in view possibly of the concessions made to their demands, were losing much in numerical importance. A couple of bye-elections to the Folkething resulted in one case in the return of a representative of the Reform party, who defeated a candidate of the Moderate Left, and in the other constituency—for many years Conservative—a Social Democrat obtained a victory over his Conservative opponent.

Towards the end of April, the Government sustained a loss by the sudden death of M. Ingersler, the Traffic Minister. This death brought about a re-arrangement of the Ministries, a Minister of Agriculture being substituted for the Minister of Traffic. M. Kund Selcested was appointed Minister of Agriculture. About the same time, General Thomson, from ill-health, resigned the War Ministry, Colonel Schnack being appointed his successor. A couple of months later, M. Nellemann, the Minister of Justice, or Home Secretary, resigned, having held his office for twenty-one years, and exercised great influence in the Cabinet. His successor was M. Rump.

On July 22, Prince Charles of Denmark was, in London, married to Princess Maud of Wales, and their entry into Copenhagen took place on December 21, the Danish capital according them an enthusiastic reception.

VII. SWEDEN.

The Riksdag, which met for its third and last session, assembled as usual early in the year. The shadow of approaching dissolution, usually manifested by an inclination to let contentious matters stand over, was not so apparent in the transactions of the business of the year. The result of the re-union of the Old and the Young Landtmanna parties was seen at the outset to the detriment of the Radicals. In the various committees, which are always elected and play a most important part in the legislation of the year, as well as in the control of the executive, the Radicals found no place. This treatment at the hands of the Old Landtmanna party, with which they had been wont to co-operate, was especially irritating, and at the autumnal elections the keenness of their resentment was shown by their determined hostility to the

Old Landtmanna candidates. In Parliament the Radicals naturally made the best use of their opportunities to worry the Government. In the First Chamber, which was at once Conservative and Protectionist, the harmony was less than might have been expected, and matters grew so serious that the Premier at length threatened to resign unless some better understanding between the groups was guaranteed. So far as the Upper House was concerned, his threat was successful—but in the Second Chamber there was a less cordial response to his appeal. The cause of this discord was the manner in which the Government proposed to extend the franchise. Within the Cabinet itself this measure had brought about such serious dissension that the Home Secretary, M. Östergren, was replaced by M. Annerstedt. This change did not please the Protectionists in the First Chamber; the retiring minister being, with M. Boström, their representative in the Ministry, whilst his successor had free-trade sympathies. The measure for an extension of the franchise was, however, ultimately dropped; one party finding it unnecessary, the other inadequate. The tariff question, which had provided successive Parliaments with a recurring game of shuttle-cock and battle-dore, found the Riksdag in a faintly-pronounced Protectionistic mood. The duties on pig-iron were dropped, and the lower duty on leather was passed; the bacon duty, to commence with the New Year, was accepted, and the tax on beet-root sugar, of which in Sweden—as in many other countries—an over-production was threatened, was slightly increased, the proportion of one-half to the duty on cane sugar being maintained. Notwithstanding these frequent changes in the tariff, Swedish industry and commerce did not seem to fare very badly. The unsettled state of the tariff question was further enhanced by the relations between Sweden and Norway, in view of the prospective reorganisation on account of the expiration of the Mellan Rikslag.

At the opening of the session it was stated in the speech from the throne that Parliament would be called upon to increase the expenditure on the Army and Navy. The Government thought the flourishing state of the exchequer justified it in extending its demands for both services, in view of the strained relations which had for the last few years existed between the two countries forming the Swedish-Norwegian Union. Moreover, the rapid development of railway communication in North Sweden furnished the Government with a reasonable ground of defence. The ministerial programme embraced the building of several battleships and cruisers, the completion of the coast fortifications, and the equipment of the Army with improved firearms. The Government, as usual, found its chief support in the Upper House, but the Second Chamber with difficulty was persuaded to deviate from its economical habits. Funds were, however, plentiful, and the joint-votes

gave to the Government nearly everything it demanded. The votes for the Navy and the coast defences were duly passed; and although those for the Army were reduced, they enabled the Government to set about providing a portion of the approved 6·5 millimetre rifles. Owing to this reduction in the military votes, and the prosperous state of the revenue, the supplementary votes for the 1897 budget could be entirely dispensed with.

The Riksdag had no lack of legislative measures to discuss, some of which passed into law, whilst others were materially advanced. Amongst the former were measures dealing with small landholders, and fisheries. The question of the preservation of the forests, one of great importance to Northern Sweden, was also dealt with, and the Government was requested to have the subject fully investigated and reported upon, for the purpose of introducing a new and comprehensive bill into the Riksdag; the alternative apparently lying between compulsory re-planting and prohibition against cutting down trees under certain dimensions. Another question of national importance, to which the attention of the Government was directed by the House, was the manner in which the right to utilise the water power of Swedish rivers and falls should be regulated, the immense quantity of unused power of this description every day attracting more attention. The contemplated re-organisation of the Bank of Sweden—the Riksbank—was also before the Riksdag, but the introduction of a definite measure had to stand over till the following session, pending further reports; one or two preliminary points were disposed of, principally dealing with the Government's position toward representation in the bank management. The large agricultural element in the Second Chamber, however, saw fit to negative the Government measure introducing compulsory inspection of slaughtered cattle and the erection of public slaughter-houses. As tuberculosis was not uncommon in Sweden, this decision was regretted by many, although the Government, being vested with power of local supervision, could intervene effectually should the necessity arise.

The relations between Sweden and Norway during the year passed into a quieter stage. In Sweden the bitter feeling towards Norway was in any case less visible—and although the Radical party in Norway had not abandoned their demands, they were no longer in a position to urge them so defiantly. That they, however, had not mitigated in any appreciable degree their former hostility to the union was shown on more than one occasion, and their programme remained virtually the same. The question of foreign representation still remained an apple of discord, but the efforts of the Radicals in the Norwegian Storting on this and one or two other points were without practical result. Meanwhile the Union Committee continued its sittings, but notwithstanding the demands of the Radical

party in Norway, its proceedings were not made public. The committee appointed to consider the Mellan Rikslag (the act regulating the tariff relations between the two countries), which Sweden had given notice to terminate, had to separate without having been able to agree. The respective Governments then took up the matter, but were equally unable to arrive at a compromise. Although each country blamed the other for selfishness and obstinacy, neither seemed to care very much whether a new arrangement—by statute—could be concluded. A revision was probably necessary, although it might for the time terminate the old tariff facilities altogether. Such a result would interfere to no small extent with the trade and industry of both countries.

The general election, which took place early in the autumn, excited an unusual amount of agitation throughout the country, in consequence of the recent shifting of party relations in the Second Chamber. In the Riksdag the Democrats or Radicals, on the re-union of the two Landtmanna parties, found themselves left completely in the cold and virtually without influence upon the business of the House. They were therefore bound to make a strenuous effort to improve their position at the general election, and they were not slow in making use of the weapons with which their opponents had furnished them. It was a comparatively simple matter to sow the seeds of suspicion against some of the more conspicuous members of the Old Landtmanna party, who were accused of having abandoned their old traditions and of coquetting with Protectionists and First-Chamber men. The cry of the Democrats was in favour of a more truly democratic representation, by means of which they proposed to form a People's party. This programme was supported by no lack of good arguments, but the more advanced spokesmen of the party overstepped the limits of discretion and frightened a number of electors, who might otherwise have given their support. The success of the Democrats at one of the earliest elections in unseating a prominent politician like Olof Jonsson, emboldened them to throw off any disguise of moderation, but subsequent reverses taught them, too late, that public opinion was not wholly with them. They certainly won seats in certain districts, but on the whole the Protectionists improved their position. On the tariff question a majority of the newly elected members accepted the existing state of affairs. This, combined with the increased strength of the Protectionists, seemed destined to give greater stability to tariff legislation, which for years had been a regular barometer of the strength of the respective parties in the two Chambers. In the towns the elections were more uncertain, owing to the recent re-adjustment of urban boundaries and divisions. Borough representation in Sweden had hitherto been less Radical than in other countries, but this year (1896) Stockholm was carried by the Radicals, and a Socialist was for the first

time returned as a member of the Riksdag. The progress of the extreme Liberals in the capital would no doubt have been checked, had the more Conservative Free Traders been able to arrive at an understanding with their Protectionist fellow Conservatives. This could not be brought about, and in Gothenburg the Conservative Free Traders voted with the Liberals, whereby they managed to keep out the Protectionists, who recently had gained ground in this eminently commercial city. In general terms the result of the election was the foundation of a more compact Radical opposition, and the gulf between itself and the powerful Landtmanna party considerably widened.

Another People's Parliament was held during the year, without attaining to any more tangible results than its predecessor three years previously. The speakers, however, found compensation in the opportunity afforded of advocating the most Radical proposals, such as a general strike during the great exhibition at Stockholm in 1897 and the arming of the nation at large. On being put to the vote, however, these suggestions were decisively negatived.

During the year Sweden with much energy continued the extension of her railway system, both as regards the Government and private lines. The question of advancing the North Trunk line from Boden to the Finnish frontier, where connection would be established with the Finnish State Railways, was advanced towards an approaching settlement, but the most important railway scheme brought forward during the year was that for a line from Gellivara through the rich ore districts at Kirunavara and Suarsovara to the Norwegian frontier, and thence to the coast of the North Atlantic. This project, almost identical with the English company's line known as the Swedish-Norwegian Company, after completing the Gellivara-Scalea section had collapsed, and its works were sold to the Swedish Government for a fraction of the company's capital. The revised plan was originated by a Swedish syndicate, but it was expected that the state would eventually take up and carry out the scheme. Sweden also during the year completed arrangements with Germany for the establishment of Swedish-German continental connection by way of Trelleborg and Sassnitz on the island of Rügen.

The Agrarian movement in Sweden, although not exercising much direct influence, gave signs of gaining ground during the year, as was seen by the attendance at a meeting held by the Union at Stockholm. King Oscar decided that the funds collected in honour of the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ascension to the throne should be applied to measures against tuberculosis, whereby agricultural interests especially would be benefited.

Among others, two distinguished Swedes passed away during 1896, the brothers Robert and Alfred Nobel. The former was the real founder of the petroleum industry at

Baku, and Alfred Nobel was made famous by the invention of dynamite, and his remarkable bequests.

VIII. NORWAY.

The year 1896, unmarked by any great political disturbances, was a satisfactory contrast to its predecessors. This quieter aspect of affairs, however, was rather of the nature of a pause in the struggle, or perhaps of a compulsory armistice, than of that reconciliation which often follows a well-fought and honourably ended battle. If the element of unrest in Norwegian politics was less in evidence than during previous years, it was due to unfavourable circumstances and the lack of opportunity. The Radical Left during the year realised that their power of effecting any important change in the Constitution had not arrived, but they were nevertheless fully determined not to compromise with their opponents except upon their own terms. The cessation of more active hostilities, however, in connection with Unionist questions, afforded a welcome rest to both political parties. In home politics, however, party feeling on one or two occasions ran high enough, and the Coalition Government several times was placed in difficult positions.

The Storting session was very long, the Legislature sitting to the end of July, and it was with a sense of general relief that it was at last prorogued. A number of important measures were brought before the House, but neither side was particularly pleased with the ultimate results; the best proof of the Government having steered a careful and discreet middle course. The Storting on the whole was generous in its grants; the more careful financiers thinking almost too much so, as they could not altogether approve of the somewhat informal manner in which the deficit was covered. There was but little wrangling over the votes for National Defence, and both Army and Navy benefited from the marked change in the patriotic attitude of the Opposition, which for years stubbornly opposed the demands of the Executive Government. Much, however, would have to be done before the Norwegian naval and military departments will have been adequately reformed. The Storting, moreover, showed itself liberal towards public works and local concessions, but there were signs that more discretion and economy would for the future be exercised in this direction. A feeling of greater responsibility in financial matters was evident in the debates and decisions of the House. The Government did not succeed in carrying its Tariff Bill, and there seemed an inclination in Norway to adopt more protectionist views on the tariff question. The Custom Committee recommended the appointment by the Storting of a commission, consisting of seven members, to form a new tariff scale upon the differential system, and offering protection for home industries. The commission was authorised to

call in the assistance of experts, and its report, if possible, was to be laid before the Storthing in the following session. Norway further showed her independent views on the tariff question by her disinclination to arrive at an understanding with Sweden about their tariff regulations, which were being dealt with by a special committee. The cessation of the existing arrangements between Norway and Sweden would at the outset, if not permanently, exercise an unfavourable influence upon Norwegian industry and commerce. But the desire for greater national independence in this respect had rapidly sprung up. On several occasions the opinion was expressed that Norway could, commercially, do better without Sweden than Sweden without Norway, and that Norway could make arrangements with another country—Denmark—which would compensate her for the termination of her relations with Sweden.

On several measures, which involved protracted debates in the Storthing and even jeopardised the position of the Government, the divergent views of the Coalition Cabinet were exposed. For example on the flag question M. Hagerup himself stated that the Government was not agreed, and urged the desirability of the decision being postponed. Again in the municipal suffrage debate M. Engelhardt informed the Odelsting that the members of the Government held divergent opinions on this matter, and that he could say nothing about its intentions. The latter measure, which in violation of all traditions introduced universal suffrage into municipal matters, was only passed by a majority of two votes. The bill itself called forth a widespread expression of public opinion, and met with severe criticism from the more moderate groups, both in and out of the Storthing. The bill introduced into Norway an exceptional if not unique principle by extending the municipal franchise considerably beyond the privileges of parliamentary voting. The opponents of the measure, on the ground that it was inadequately considered and far from faultlessly framed, announced their intention to revise at the earliest opportunity the action of the Storthing in this matter. In order to procure for the bill the sanction of the Government, it was asserted that the Radicals had brought to bear unusual pressure. Threats of upsetting the Government and the Union Committee were resorted to, and were duly paraded in the Radical press. Whether the Radicals really would or could have carried out their threats was immaterial. Against the decision on the municipal franchise question the Conservatives raised an energetic protest at their meeting at Hamar, and condemned it in the most unmistakable manner. They asserted that the bill had sprung into existence under extraordinary circumstances, and had called forth so little support in the country that a postponement of the matter would have been justifiable. The Conservative party, it was further

stated, regarded it as a duty at the next general election to place the question of the revision of the Municipal Franchise Bill before their constituents. The Conservatives in this matter counted upon the support of all the more moderate groups, whether Conservative, Moderate, or Central, and expected that even a number of the Left might, on second thoughts, revolt against the decision of their more Radical colleagues. Amongst the other bills passed must be mentioned the Bank Bill, which had for its aim the removal of the headquarters of the Bank of Norway from Drontheim to Christiania, a step which was natural enough, and which had often been under discussion; a School Bill, a bill dealing with neglected children, and the adoption of the Berne Convention were also passed. Grants were voted for new law court buildings and for an official residence for the Prime Minister.

On more than one occasion the heat of party feeling led to violent scenes in the House, and it was extremely difficult for the Government to remain wholly impartial. They did their best to act the part of mediators and to see that neither side was unduly favoured. Both parties could claim victories, and both had to admit defeats, and finally both sides appeared dissatisfied with their respective positions. The Radicals carried the Flag and the Municipal Franchise Bills, but then the former was not sanctioned by the Crown. A vote which gave rise to quite an unusual, if not unprecedented, occurrence in the Storting was the Government's proposal for a Norwegian grant to aid Norwegian exhibitors at the forthcoming Stockholm Exhibition. The Radicals made this a matter of great political importance, and regularly talked against time so as to enable one member who was absent, and upon whose vote they thought they could reckon, to put in an appearance. One member even went so far as to propose the postponement of the debate pending the return of the member in question, but this proposal, which would have established an awkward or an absurd precedent, was negatived by 57 votes to 56. The exhibition vote was ultimately carried, and the proceedings of the Radicals were severely criticised by their opponents. The votes for the University, keenly opposed by the Radicals, were also successfully passed, the Government waiving one or two points, so that a kind of compromise was arrived at. The consular question, the principal bone of contention between Norway and Sweden, was debated at great length. The Radicals persisted in making all these arrangements purely provisional, pending an ultimate and definite settlement of the whole question, but notwithstanding every effort, and although the respective strength of the parties was almost equally balanced, the Radicals were defeated, and the expenditure was voted. This decision showed that the last two years had wrought an important change of opinion within the Storting. M. Onam's proposal for provisional budgets was not considered

sufficiently discussed for legislation, whilst the question of permitting voting by proxy was slightly advanced by its Conservative supporters.

Later in the year the Radicals showed symptoms of combativeness in the matter of the Union Committee. They maintained that the proceedings of the Committee were unnecessarily protracted, and that, in any case, reports should be made from time to time as to the nature and results of its deliberations. They charged their political opponents with being responsible for the delay. The Conservative Norwegian members of the Committee strongly protested against this accusation, which in reality had been made with a view of forcing the Committee to make some disclosure as to the progress of its work. The attempt, however, proved futile, and although it was impossible to foretell whether the Committee would find the much desired solution of international rivalries, it was at least to be allowed to complete its work unmolested.

The Government, which owed its existence to the resolution of June, 1895, admittedly had a difficult task and scarcely found the occasion to improve its position, or to increase its prestige during the present year. Its main support rested upon the Moderate groups in Parliament, and these were undoubtedly much surprised by the Government allowing the Municipal Franchise Bill to pass into law. Another section of the Conservatives was dissatisfied with the financial policy of the Government, to whose budget they partly attributed the deficit. It was however especially M. Sverdrup, the Minister for Education, who incurred the displeasure of the Conservatives. They blamed him for holding too advanced views, for having unduly favoured political opponents, and above all for having attempted to conciliate the outside public instead of convincing the Chamber. Although M. Sverdrup and some of his colleagues incurred the charge of lack of firmness and distinct purpose, the Ministry it was expected would in all probability be allowed to remain until the general election of 1897 settled parties and party relations on a more definite basis.

An Agrarian group formed during the session, although it did not develop into a body of great parliamentary influence, promised to play a more prominent part in the next elections. That the agricultural class would become more alive to their own particular interests and less disposed to accept the vague promises held out by politicians was most likely. And in this respect they would probably find themselves in alliance or in rivalry with the representatives of Norwegian industry.

The frequent presence in Norway during the year of the King and Queen and other members of the royal family might also be taken as a sign of the improved relations between Norway and Sweden; the King and Queen and other members of the royal family even spending Christmas in Christiania.

CHAPTER V.

ASIA.

I. INDIA, ETC.

Afghanistan.—Serious fighting took place between the troops of the Ameer and the brave race living in the mountain region of Kafiristan at the close of 1895. Kafiristan was placed on the Afghan side in the delimitation of boundary which followed the conclusion of the Cabul agreement of November 12, 1893, and therefore the Ameer claimed the right to subdue the Kafirs. The Afghans had captured twenty-five forts early in the year at an admitted loss of 1,500 killed and wounded. In some of the valleys, however, the Kafirs still held out, although many of the chiefs had submitted to the Ameer at the beginning of February. Soon after hostilities were resumed on the southern and eastern sides of Kafiristan, and nearly all the fertile portions were taken by the Afghan forces. In May the troops were ordered into the more inaccessible north-western part, so as to complete the subjugation of the country. The Ameer treated the conquered people with leniency. Orders were issued forbidding slave traffic in Kafirs, for it had been alleged that after the victories in the Bashgal Valley at the beginning of the year certain captives were reduced to an atrocious form of slavery. The Ameer also gave orders to the Afghan officers to treat the Kafirs kindly, and not seek to convert them by force to Mahomedanism.

Negotiations were going on between the Indian Government and the Ameer tending to the appointment of a joint commission for determining the last 100 miles of Indo-Afghan frontier yet unsettled, from Lundi-kotal in the Kyber to Nawar-kotal on the Kunar River. The Ameer sent a force of militia in the summer to occupy the Mittai Valley in Bajaur, where the clans had previously received a demand for taxes. The Khan of Nawagai, who rendered excellent service in the late Chitral campaign, was alarmed and complained to the Government of India. The Ameer, after some hesitation, acknowledged his obligations under the Durand Treaty, but at the close of the year the Afghan outpost still remained at Mittai.

In December a slight collision took place between the forces of the Khan of Nawagai, whose territory was threatened by the Afghans at Mittai, and the Khan of Pashat, and the Afghan force moved down the Kunar River about fifteen miles from Asmar to protect their communications with Jellalabad, but nothing more serious happened, and the final solution of the frontier question was in a fair way of settlement.

The arrangements for the demarcation of the boundary between British Beluchistan and Persia from Koh-i-Malik-Siah

on the north, to a point near Jalk, were concluded, and pillars were to be set up in the desert marking the frontier.

On the Pamir frontier the surrender of the Darwaz district of Bakhara to the Afghans up to the Amu-daria, as agreed upon between Russia and Great Britain, was also completed in October. It was stated that Russia was making movements in the direction of Herat, and intended not only to extend the railway from Merv into the Kushk Valley, but also to build a line from Charjui along the Oxus to Karki, close to the Afghan frontier.

Nazrullah Khan was received in a most cordial manner on his return from his visit to England. There were great rejoicings for two or three weeks, but since then he gradually dropped out of notice. His brother, Habibullah Khan, on the other hand, was immensely popular with everybody, and was in high favour with the Ameer.

Burmah.—Sir F. Fryer, chief commissioner, held a durbar at Mandalay in January, and distributed honours and rewards to a number of Northern Shan chiefs. He assured them that the Government would not interfere directly with internal affairs. The hill country was unusually peaceful, and the Chins were surrendering their arms freely. A force was sent from Mindat-Sakan in March to punish the Yindu-Chins for a raid on the plains. The Yindus attempted (Mar. 20) to capture the Mindat stockade fort, but they were repulsed by the garrison. In the Wa country, to the east of the Salween River, Captain Elliot was attacked by the tribesmen and had several sharp skirmishes with them. It was proposed by the military authorities at Rangoon to send a strong force under General Stedman against these warlike people in the next cold season.

Licences for working the recently discovered ruby mines near Bhamo were issued to large numbers of Shans and Burmese, and in May Kachin dacoits from the Chinese frontier made several attacks on Chinese traders at the mines. The annual police report, however, showed a marked decrease in violent crimes, and an absence of large gangs of dacoits in the province.

The preliminary survey for a railway, seventy miles long, from the Mu Valley line to the Chindwin River, was completed, and in June it was announced that a syndicate had purchased the State Railway system, which included 1,000 miles open to traffic, at the price of 6,000,000*l.* sterling.

Active work was commenced for the development of the mineral wealth of Upper Burmah. Gold was found in the Wontho district, and coal of excellent quality was reported from the Yatsuk region in the Southern Shan country. Plumbago deposits have been discovered near Mandalay; and the petroleum wells of Upper Burmah produced a vast supply of oil that was still far below the native Indian demand for it.

The total area under cultivation in the principal rice-producing districts of Lower Burmah was over 5,000,000 acres—an increase of 2 per cent. over the figures of 1895. About 60,000 acres were destroyed by floods. In certain districts the condition of the crops in October was causing anxiety, and the Government was preparing to start relief works in the localities threatened by scarcity.

The proceeds of the sales of opium licences in Burmah during the current financial year showed an increase of 3½ lakhs over those of the preceding year.

The trade returns for the year ending March 31 showed that the total imports into Burmah by sea amounted to 1,091 lakhs—an increase of 225 lakhs over the preceding year. Coastwise imports showed a slight decrease, but foreign imports increased from 352 lakhs to 483 lakhs. Exports increased from 1,381 lakhs to 1,417 lakhs, and foreign exports from 982 lakhs to 1,056 lakhs.

There was a remarkable development of transfrontier trade, especially between China and the Southern Shan states.

A report on the internal trade of Burmah for the three years ending March 31 last showed an increase in that period in the trade between Upper and Lower Burmah of 392 lakhs of rupees over the preceding three years. The trade from Upper into Lower Burmah was increasing rapidly. The decline in the trade from the Lower to the Upper Province was almost wholly in rice, which was not imported because Upper Burmah had abundance of its own.

Chitral.—Early in January Sir George Robertson held a large durbar at Gilgit, which was attended by many of the native chiefs under the political control of the Gilgit agency. The expressions of satisfaction with British rule were unstinted. The Indian military authorities in May approved a scheme for the concentration of the Chitral forces, and for a proper employment of native contingents. It was proposed to give up Mastuj entirely to local levies, and to make Gupis, the old frontier post, the farthest garrison of the Cashmere troops. It was also proposed to reduce the number of specially employed British officers. A gratuity of five lakhs of rupees was given to the troops who were engaged in the recent Chitral expedition. At the close of the year everything was quiet and peaceful, and it was evident that the tribes were satisfied with their new rulers.

Umra Khan, the Jandol chief, who was the principal instigator of the Chitral disturbance of last year, and fled to India where he was taken prisoner, received permission to make a pilgrimage to Mecca. He returned from Mecca to Bombay in July, and requested the Viceroy to grant him an interview.

Opium Commission.—This year saw the end of the Opium Commission. With one exception all the members of the commission agreed to the report recommending that the pay of

inferior native officials in the Opium Department should be increased, and the employment of an increased Government staff to take the place of the middlemen, and buy the drug direct from the grower. As to the suggested prohibition of opium smoking, the commission showed that liquid or solid preparations of opium are used in India as a febrifuge, a stimulant, and a restorative, and that their use was not productive of such widespread evils as were caused by the use of alcohol in England. The Indian Government declared its readiness to prevent the spread of opium smoking so far as it could be done by refusing to license shops for the sale of opium for that purpose, but declined to give the police the power to interfere with opium smoking in private houses. The Secretary of State accepted the action of the Indian Government, and the system of refusing licences for the sale of opium prepared for smoking which has been in force for some years in the Punjab and other provinces was to be extended to all India.

National Congress.—The eleventh Indian National Congress met at Calcutta (Dec. 28). Before the date of meeting a circular letter was addressed to the Congress Committees, in which it was stated that the committees were in debt to the London office of the congress over 94,000 rupees. Mr. R. M. Sayani, a member of the Vice-regal Council, presided, and Sir R. Mitter, late Chief Justice of Bengal, the chairman of the Reception Committee, sent an address of welcome. He considered that the congress should be a help to the Government, whose attitude therefore should be in sympathy with the congress. He eulogised the Queen, and declared the loyalty of the congress to the existing Government.

At the second sitting of the congress, the first resolution was one heartily congratulating the Queen-Empress on the attainment of the sixtieth year of her reign, and expressing the earnest hope that her Majesty might long be spared to rule. This resolution passed unanimously—all the delegates standing. Among the resolutions passed was one demanding that immediate effect should be given to the resolution passed by Parliament in 1893 that civil service examinations should be held simultaneously in England and in India. Other resolutions protested against the exclusion of Indians from the higher civil service posts, and against the salt tax, and urged the introduction of trial by jury throughout the country.

Native States.—The Maharajah Rana of Jhalawar, the ruler of one of the small states of Rajputana, was guilty of various tyrannical acts, and was misgoverning his state to such a degree that after repeated warnings it became necessary to send Mr. Crosthwaite, an experienced official, to Jhalra Patan, the capital, with a strong escort, to inquire into his eccentric conduct. The Maharajah endeavoured to defeat this inquiry, and his attitude towards Mr. Crosthwaite was insolent and menacing. The Indian Government was therefore com-

pelled to depose him, and on May 1 the Secretary of State for India concurred with this action of the Viceroy. The state was provisionally administered then by the British political agent.

Sir Sheshadri Iyer, the Prime Minister of Mysore, since the death of the late Maharajah, has administered the state on behalf of the Maharani and the minor Prince. Mysore has an Assembly or a kind of Parliament for making known the policy of the ruler to the people, and for acquainting the ruler with the wants and grievances of the people.

Mysore had an increasing revenue. The net earnings of the railways rose from 3·48 to 4·45 per cent. during the year. Mysore produced the whole of the gold of Indian mines—about 250,000 ounces—except 2,000 ounces. The Mysore gold mines cover an area nine miles in length, and give employment to over 13,000 men. There are sixty shafts varying in depth from 30 ft. to nearly 1,500 ft.

Bombay.—Owing to abnormally heavy rains, disastrous floods occurred in the Bombay Presidency in July, and traffic was interrupted on the Great Indian and Baroda Railways.

A terrible accident happened to the Bombay mail train (Apr. 27) at a point south of Ghaziabad, caused by a box of fireworks which exploded on the train in a carriage closely packed with passengers. The natives jumped out with their clothes on fire while the train was in rapid motion. Three were killed and eleven badly wounded. Several more were burned to death in the carriage.

Early in October the bubonic plague was certified to exist in the Bombay Presidency. It was then said to be in a mild form, and the Government appointed a committee to inquire into the matter. Army orders were issued placing the city out of bounds for the troops until further orders. The health officer of Bombay denied that the malady was bubonic plague, but called it a peculiar form of fever attended by glandular enlargement. Hygienic measures were taken for cleansing the infected districts, where the natives lived in close quarters, but while the disease was held in check thereby, it was not stamped out. An exodus from the city began, and by December 31 nearly half of the population had fled. The total number of cases of plague at Bombay then was 2,430, and the number of deaths 1,750. It was a matter of satisfaction, however, that the health of the European community in Bombay remained good. It was feared that the migration of so many of the inhabitants would carry the germs of infection to other towns and to the rural districts. The disease appeared in Kurrachee and Poona, and in some of the country towns and villages where the runaways had carried the contagion. Business in the city was paralysed, nearly all the mill-operatives had left in panic, and there was no abatement of the disease as the year closed. The eventual loss to the commerce of Bombay was estimated at 10,000,000*l*.

A great demonstration in honour of Mr. Bhownaggree, M.P., took place at Bombay on December 5. An address was presented asking him to represent in Parliament the desire of the Mahomedans in India for the integrity of the Mahomedan rule in Turkey, although the atrocities against the Armenians met with their detestation.

Replying to the toast of his health at a public dinner (Dec. 7) he declared that he had always endeavoured to serve the best interests of India.

Bengal.—Sir Alexander Mackenzie, lieutenant-governor of the province, was exerting himself to restore the roads in the tea-growing districts of North-Eastern Bengal that were in danger owing to the neglect of protective works against the encroachments of the rivers.

Lower Bengal was threatened with a scarcity of drinking water, and for months the native press urged immediate action upon the Government. The lieutenant-governor regretted that the existing rates could not be increased to meet the expense of providing water storage, and declared his inability to furnish that supply unless the Bengal villagers would pay for it by submitting to old forms of native taxation.

The coal mining industry in Bengal was advancing at such a rate that it far outstripped the growth of the labour supply. The Bengal output yielded 2,000,000 of the 2,750,000 tons produced in all India. The mining proprietors were considering the expedience of employing Chinese labour, or an increased importation from the North-western provinces, as a solution of the labour problem.

Sir Alexander Mackenzie laid the first stone of the drainage extension works at Calcutta (Nov. 26). In reply to an address he strongly criticised the dilatory action of the corporation, and said that unless steps were taken to remedy the appalling state of sanitation the Government would have to act independently of the municipal authorities.

A medical board made a report showing that the city area had become terribly overcrowded, several wards having a population of over 100,000 per square mile, one of them rising to nearly 145,000. Houses which should accommodate fifty persons only if ordinary precautions regarding health were observed contained five times that number, while the *bástis*, which are collections of mud huts, were densely packed. If disease of the typhus type obtained a footing it would be almost impossible to stamp it out.

Sir Comer Petheram, who had resigned the office of Chief Justice of Bengal and was returning to England, was presented (Sept. 5) with a farewell address. In the course of his reply, he said that the extension of the period of service of judges of the High Court to qualify them for full pension, taken in conjunction with the depreciated rupee, seriously narrowed the field of selection and might also have its effect upon the

efficiency of judges. It was difficult for men in middle life to spend fifteen years in harness in India without their temper and capacity being impaired to an extent which was inimical to the public interests.

Madras.—Sir Arthur Havelock, the new Governor of Madras, arrived in March and was heartily welcomed.

Lieutenant-General Mansfield Clarke, in command of the Madras Army, was doing much to improve the efficiency of the native regiments, and had formulated a scheme for the creation of class companies. He was engaged in carrying out the plans of his predecessor, Sir James Dormer, for gradually eliminating the unwarlike races from the Madras regiments.

The Madras Government was expecting to find a better method of dealing with land revenue defaulters. Of such defaulters whose property was sold for arrears, the number was reduced from 130,174 in 1883 to 10,115 in 1890.

Mr. R. S. Benson was appointed in February a judge of the High Court of Judicature in Madras.

Army.—Provision was made in the military budget for completing the mobilisation scheme which had been held in abeyance for several years. The greatest want of the Army was more British officers for the native regiments.

Contagious disease was seriously impairing the efficiency of the British Army in India. The returns for 1895 showed that the admissions into hospital from this cause had risen from 511 to 537 per thousand; only 26,000 men out of 70,000 were returned as never having suffered from this disease.

Indian troops were sent to Africa to take part in the Soudan campaign. The cost, amounting to some 35,000*l.*, was defrayed by the Indian exchequer. Many protests were made in India against the policy of the Home Government in allowing this charge.

Viceroy.—Early in the year Lord Elgin, the Viceroy, was ailing, and was ordered to take a sea voyage, from which he returned in very much better health. At a supper at the vice-regal residence in Simla (Sept. 23) the Viceroy proposed the health of the Queen-Empress and spoke eloquently in alluding to her Majesty's long and glorious reign.

Lord Elgin decided that the precedent established by recent governors-general of making an extended tour through India in the autumn vacation of the Legislative Council should be maintained. In a speech at the outset of his journey he acknowledged the gravity of the situation caused by the failure of the crops, but he thought that the system of personal visits to the presidencies and the native states should not be suspended on that account. On November 7 he was at Alwar and spoke at a banquet. He arrived at Jaipur, November 17, with the Countess of Elgin, where they met with an impressive reception. They drove through the principal streets of the city, which were lined by the troops of the Maharajah. The

vice-regal party arrived at Bikaner in Rajputana on November 21. At Jadhpur Lord Elgin eulogised the imperial service troops, and dwelt on the value of the loyalty of the native states. He reached Baroda on November 27, and met with a brilliant reception. During a *fête* given there a terrible accident happened. Two crowds of people met in a narrow road, causing a frightful crush in which twenty-nine persons were killed and many were badly hurt. On November 30 the Viceroy turned the first sod of the Tapti Valley Railway to be built by local enterprise. On December 1 the Viceroy arrived at Indore, where a banquet was given in his honour by the Maharajah Holkar. The Maharajah of Gwalior entertained him at Ujhani on December 4, and on December 5 he arrived at Jabalpur. The following week he visited Benares, and after inspecting the relief works near Allahabad he returned to Calcutta.

Railways.—The Indian Government was urged to make a more rapid extension of the railway system. Some steps were taken in that direction, but financial reasons induced caution. The programme submitted to the Secretary of State involved the expenditure of from twenty-seven to twenty-eight crores during the next three years, and to carry it through it would be necessary to borrow largely from England.

There was a development in India of a local railway policy which promised to be significant. For the Tapti Valley line 2,250,000 rupees were subscribed in Surat city alone, and the Gaikwar of Baroda subscribed 3,250,000 rupees. The difficulty of finding good securities yielding fair interest was leading the native princes to embark capital in railway construction.

A peculiar loan of 2,000,000 rupees was made in January by Sir Bhagvat Sinhji, the ruler of Gondal, to his Highness Jasvant Sinhji, the ruler of Jamnagar, for railway building, the securities consisting of an assignment to the lending state of a prior claim on all the net profits of the said railway, and an hypothecation of the revenues of three districts within the borrowing state to make good any deficiency in payment of interest or capital at fixed dates.

The length of railways opened for traffic (Mar. 31) was 19,677 miles. The gross earnings were 26 crores, and the working expenses 12 crores. The capital invested gave a return of 5·78 per cent., against 5·69 the previous year.

Famine.—At the very beginning of the year it was remarked that the cold weather rains had failed completely in Upper India, and it was early foreseen that provision would have to be made for scarcity caused by the long drought. In May distress was increasing in the north-west provinces, and 265,000 persons were there employed on relief works; 15,000 in Rajputana and 16,000 in Central India were similarly helped. In October the usual rains had failed over Oudh, in parts of the Allahabad, Agra and Benares districts, in large tracts of the Punjab northwards to Lahore, and southwards to Jub-

bulpur, Raipur, and even in Upper Burmah. Some slight riots were reported in Cawnpur, Agra and Nagpur on account of the rise in the price of grain. By the end of October there was little hope of sufficient rain in the threatened districts to ward off a famine, and scarcity was extending to Behar and Bombay. Irrigation in the tracts supplied by the Chenab Canal in the Punjab was employed to bring waste land under cultivation, and railway relief works were started in the famine districts.

In November the Queen and the Secretary of State for India sent telegrams of sympathy to the people, and promises of assistance. At Sholapur, in the Bombay Presidency (Nov. 8), a mob of 5,000 looted 1,500 bags of grain. The police were compelled to fire; several of the rioters were killed and others were wounded. Great quantities of vegetable seeds were bought by the British Government for shipment to India.

Toward the end of November rain fell moderately where it was most wanted, in the Bombay Presidency, throughout the Deccan, in the western part of the north-west provinces, in the Agra and Meerut districts, and on the Madras coast. Heavy rain had fallen in Behar and light showers in Allahabad. The prospect seemed improving. Several of the native princes placed large sums of money at the disposal of the Viceroy for famine exigencies.

The first area, where the greatest failure of crops occurred, covered 25,000 square miles, with a population of 13,000,000. Here it was feared the famine might be acute. The second area, where there was severe failure, covered 30,000 square miles, with a population of 14,000,000. The third area, where there had been considerable failure, covered 25,000 square miles, with a population of 12,500,000. The divisions worst off were Allahabad, Lucknow and Faizabad, with the portion of Agra which was not protected by irrigation. The relief organisation was showing itself equal to all demands as they arose. The policy of advancing 18 lakhs for the construction of surface wells had the best results. Returns received from five divisions showed that 300,000 wells would be made. This would add 500,000 acres to the rabi area, and yield crops, rain or no rain. In some villages labour was being effectively employed on the co-operative system. The liberal policy of advances of money and the suspension of revenue had put heart into the people. The greatest energy was being shown by the Government and the district officials in grappling with the distress as it increased week by week.

More rain fell in early December, and prices of grain began to decline in most of the districts. New relief works were opened at the end of the month where they were needed, for in many parts the rain was insufficient to save the recent sowings. The number of persons then employed on relief works was 561,800. Till the last it was hoped that there would be no need

for appealing to England, and that the rains would be sufficient to save the country from an extensive famine. In Bombay, nearly half a lakh of rupees was subscribed towards the relief of sufferers by famine in the presidency.

The chief commissioners of the central provinces issued a report predicting continued and general distress until July or August. The Bengal Government reported that the recent rains in Behar had materially improved the situation in some districts, but in other districts there would be very serious scarcity. Many of the native states were affected by the famine, but measures are being taken by the British political officers and the native princes to meet the emergency, the Maharajah Sindhia being particularly energetic and liberal in the employment of his funds on relief works.

Legislation.—At a meeting of the Legislative Council in Calcutta (Jan. 23), two bills were introduced relating to the cotton duties; the first formally to repeal the act of 1894, and the second to amend the Tariff Act, so as to tax all woven and other cotton goods, whether made in India or imported, at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., while exempting yarns from duty. The bill passed (Feb. 3) after a long debate. The measure, which would result in a loss of revenue of nearly fifty lakhs, was opposed by Mr. Playfair, chairman of the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce; by the native members of the Council, and the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, but was warmly defended by Sir James Westland and others.

It was announced at a Council meeting in February that the Government was prepared to withdraw the section of the Jury Bill under which judges would be empowered to require juries to return special verdicts.

Financial.—Sir James Westland presented his financial statement (Mar. 18) to the Legislative Council in Calcutta. He announced the restoration of the famine insurance grant with effect from the date of suspension, but at the rate of Rx. 1,000,000 instead of 1,500,000. This would reduce the actual net surplus on the accounts for 1894-5 to Rx. 693,100. The Chitral expedition in 1895 cost $173\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The revised estimates for 1895-6 showed a surplus of Rx. 951,000 after defraying the charges of the Chitral expedition and repaying the provincial contribution of Rx. 405,000 levied in 1895.

The Secretary for India in his August statement said that there had been apparently a remarkable improvement in the revenue of Rx. 2,823,096 on the original estimate, but that an examination of the figures showed that they were not so satisfactory; Rx. 1,569,000 was due to an improvement in opium, and Rx. 941,000 in customs, mainly due to the taxation imposed at the beginning of the year. The increased expenditure was Rx. 1,828,000, but the whole of this was more than accounted for by exchange Rx. 2,121,468, or more than 293,000 rupees. The total increase of expenditure at the close of the year was

only Rx. 500,000 or fifty lakhs, as against charges incurred of 284 lakhs, showing an improvement of 234 lakhs. As to the budget for 1896-7, there were the debits due to the Famine Insurance Fund and increased Army expenditure amounting to Rx. 968,700. After taking into consideration various other improvements and fallings-off in the revenue, they got a total improvement of Rx. 1,770,000. On the other hand, there was an increase in expenditure amounting to Rx. 338,000, which was almost entirely due to the very low estimate taken on account of the railway revenue. Deducting Rx. 338,000 increased expenditure from the improvement in revenue of Rx. 1,770,000, that left an improvement of Rx. 1,432,000; and if the special expenditure to which he had referred of Rx. 968,700 were deducted from that amount, they got an estimated surplus of Rx. 463,000 for the present year. This improvement in Indian finance had greatly increased the borrowing power of the Indian Government. A falling-off of one-tenth of a penny in the value of the rupee caused a loss of twenty-two lakhs, or, in other words, a fall in exchange of a penny meant a loss in the revenue of the year of 220 lakhs of rupees.

The budget foreshadowed great activity in railway construction. The capital expenditure by the state and companies would exceed twelve crores in 1896-7, and this high rate would be practically maintained for three years. Seventy-five lakhs were to be spent in irrigation works. Sixty-two lakhs were to be allotted for the Mandalay-Kunlong Railway, and the Government had entered into an arrangement with the Burmese Company by which they had undertaken to work the Burmese lines.

The unexpected rise in exchange helped the financial situation greatly. The experiment of closing the mints for the purpose of improving exchange, though an artificial makeshift, had at the same time succeeded in causing a divergence between the exchange value of the rupee and the price of silver. The rate of exchange for financial adjustment between India and Great Britain during the current year, and for the pay of British troops in India, was in March fixed at $13\frac{1}{2}d$.

On the 17th of December a bill passed the Imperial Legislative Council at Calcutta, without opposition, raising the paper currency reserve from eight to ten crores of rupees, as a relief to trade. Sir James Westland explained that nearly all the available capital employed in commerce was practically in the Government balances, the export trade being financed by means of Council bills. The Government had made the usual arrangements to tide over the minimum cash balances period, yet, owing to the famine, they had had to suspend the collection of one crore of land revenue and to make considerable advances to cultivators. The result was that one crore and a half, which under normal conditions would have been at head-

quarters in Calcutta and Bombay and been placed at the disposal of the mercantile community for trading purposes, had been left in the hands of the agricultural population in the distressed area. The permanent cash balances had consequently fallen to seven crores and a half, or lower than they had been for twenty years; hence the stringency in the money market.

Trade.—From the “Review of the Trade of India” for 1895-6, published by the Indian Government from Mr. J. E. O’Connor’s statistics, it appeared that the imports of cotton goods were much smaller than those of 1894-5. The market had been over-supplied by large shipments prior to the imposition of the duty. The total imports of merchandise for the year amounted to the value of Rx. 62,316,000, against Rx. 70,167,000 for the preceding year. Export trade in cotton largely increased, but there was a decline in jute, opium, oil seeds, and wool. Gold was largely imported, and on a scale unknown since 1890-1. About two-thirds of Indian trade was with European countries. There was a very large increase of trade with Japan, and also with Germany, Austria-Hungary and Belgium. Eighty-six per cent. of the steam tonnage entering Indian ports during the year 1895-6 was British.

The cotton crop was a short one, and the area sown was below the average in Bombay, Madras and the Punjab. In the north-western provinces and Oudh the area sown was about the same as usual, but the crop was diminished by the scanty rains.

II. CHINA.

It was officially announced in January that Major Sir Claude M. MacDonald, K.C.M.G., would succeed Sir Nicholas O’Conor as British Minister to China. The new envoy arrived at Peking on April 22.

An imperial decree was issued in March conferring honours upon General Tung for crushing the Mahomedan rebellion in the province of Kan-su. The rebel Dungans were still undefeated, and in April were defiant, but at the end of November the rebellion collapsed.

Some fighting took place in August on the Russo-Manchurian frontier between Chinese brigands from the vicinity of Lake Khanka and a Russian force.

The Russians and Chinese combined to drive the marauders out of their strongholds.

The *literati* of the province of Yun-nan were again showing active hostility to the missions and were warning the people not to sell lands and houses to the missionaries. A riot took place at Kiang-ying (May 12) in which the Protestant mission buildings were looted and burned, but the missionaries escaped. At Wu-chan placards were posted in May denouncing the

Roman Catholic missions. In the province of Szu-chuan, where the serious riots occurred in May, 1895, the hostile feeling still existed, and while the mandarins were no doubt anxious to protect foreigners in order to save themselves from trouble, the missionaries were exposed to insult and abuse and even to personal injury. The charges made in the Hunan tracts of child slaying and child stealing were still believed. The officials and *literati* were responsible for the outrages. A memorial was addressed to the Chinese Government by a number of the missionaries asking the suppression of literature slandering Christian missions, and Li Hung Chang was appealed to by the representatives of various missionary societies to give effect to the proclamations of the Emperor made in recent years, so that real safety and freedom might be enjoyed. The French Minister obtained reparation for all acts of violence to the French missionaries in Kwei-chau during the last two years. The priests were allowed to return and the mission received an indemnity.

The French were striving to gain some commercial advantages, and the Chinese imperial authorities yielding to French influence gave orders to the Governor of Kwang-si to construct a railway northwards from Lung-chau on the Tong-king frontier. This was to connect with the French railway in Tong-king and was expected to neutralise the advantages that the opening of the West River might give to British trade.

The commercial mission sent out by the Lyons Chamber of Commerce, under the leadership of M. Rocher the French Consul, led to some practical results. In July the mission divided into four sections. One remained at Chung-king, another proceeded through Western Szu-chuan, a third set out for Mongolia, and the fourth for Tien-tsin, *viâ* Ichang, Hankow and Shanghai. The several divisions met in Yun-nan in November.

China entrusted to French engineers in October the reconstruction of the arsenal at Fu-chau.

The Emperor signed in March an edict sanctioning the opening of the West River to trade, but the actual opening awaited the conclusion of the agreement concerning the Yun-nan frontier. The mandarins still continued to tax goods arriving under a transit pass. French influence was exerted in favour of delay. The whole trade of Lung-chau, as appeared from the Chinese customs reports, was in 1895 about 15,000*l.*, in 1894 it was 25,000*l.*, and in 1893 7,500*l.* The chief export from China to Tong-king through Lung-chau was opium, which formed half the total value of the exports in 1895. In Meng-tsze French trade was more successful. There was a large increase in the import of cotton yarns, but the whole trade was practically conducted from Hong-kong. In 1895 the share of Tong-king in the import trade was but 7 per cent. of the total amount.

Neither the war with Japan nor the disturbances in certain provinces seriously interfered with Chinese foreign trade. The right to import machinery conceded by the treaty of Shimonoseki gave a great impetus to industries, especially cotton spinning and weaving. There was every prospect of China becoming a most important manufacturing country.

Two companies were started under purely Chinese auspices in Szu-chuan in February, one for the erection of cotton spinning and weaving mills and another for the manufacture of matches. For the cotton mills 500,000 taels were subscribed by the leading officials of Chung-king and wealthy merchants of the provinces were called upon to contribute another 500,000 taels.

A great obstacle to the development of commerce in China was the corrupt system of collecting revenue. The cost of collecting *likin* dues was about 70 per cent. of the total sum realised. Originally a temporary war tax, it is supposed to provide for the wants of the provincial government, but it has become a universal excise duty from which nothing produced in the country or imported from abroad is exempt. If the value of tea is taken at 15 taels per picul, with the export duty it has to bear taxation to the amount of 5.30 taels, or about 35 per cent. *ad valorem* before it leaves China. A very large part of the revenue collected by the native authorities went to enrich the officials of the Government from the highest to the lowest. The customs revenue of China in 1895 was 21,385,389 taels (about 3,500,000*l.*). The opium duty amounted to 4,104,000 taels, of which 3,108,000 taels were paid by Indian opium.

Four new treaty ports were opened to foreign trade after the war with Japan: Chung-king on the Yang-tsze-kiang about 1,500 miles inland; Hang-chau on the Tsientang River about 50 miles from the sea, and one of the centres of the silk trade; Suchau, an ancient city, 55 miles north-west of Shanghai and connected with it by water; and Sha-tsze on the Yang-tsze above Hankow. Sha-tsze has a population estimated at 600,000. Hang-chau is only approachable by steam launches.

A new commercial treaty between China and Japan was ratified in October. It was framed on the lines of the existing treaties between China and the Western Powers, but it provided that no revision of the existing tariff on imports might be demanded for ten years. The Japanese would obtain jurisdiction over their people in China, but Chinese in Japan were to be subject to Japanese jurisdiction. One article provided for the establishment of bonded warehouses at all the treaty ports, but the treaty was silent on the very important subject of the taxation to be levied by the Chinese on goods manufactured by foreigners at the treaty ports under the treaty of Shimonoseki. The treaty of Shimonoseki provided that such manufactures should pay no higher internal impost than goods imported.

It was arranged by a protocol between Japan and China that settlements exclusively for Japanese were to be provided at each of the Chinese treaty ports. The Japanese consuls were to have control of the roads and police affairs in these settlements, and the Chinese were allowed to impose taxation on articles manufactured by Japanese subjects in China, but no higher than that imposed on Chinese manufactures of the same kind. It was declared that in return for the acceptance by the Japanese Government of the Chinese rendering of the clause of the Bakan treaty respecting Japanese factories in China, Japan obtained land concessions at Tientsin, Shanghai, Hankow, and Amoy.

Russia gained important advantages after the war with Japan by diplomacy. The rumours of a Russo-Chinese treaty were revived in March, and in December what was claimed to be the text of the treaty was published. In St. Petersburg nothing was known of it. Yet no doubt a secret arrangement was concluded between Russia and China. The text of this agreement or treaty as published, it was alleged, was only that of the draft proposed by Count Cassini, Russian Minister at Peking, for the approval of the Chinese Government, and was materially modified before definite adoption. By this so-called treaty China allowed Russia to extend the Siberian Railway across Manchuria from Vladivostok to Hunch-un and thence to the capital of the Kirin province, also from some city in Siberia to Aiyun, to the provincial capital of Tsitsihar, to Petunê in the province of Kirin and thence to the capital of Kirin. The entire control of the railways was to be in the hands of Russia for thirty-six years, at the end of which time China might redeem them. Another railway from Moukden to the Siberian trunk line Russia would be allowed to build if China failed to build it, and Russia was to be allowed to place soldiers at important stations to protect railway property. China might engage Russian officers to reform her Army organisation. There was also a clause providing Russia with a seaport. China was to lease to Russia the port of Kiaochou, in the province of Shantung, for fifteen years, but Russia was not to enter into immediate possession of this port unless military operations made it necessary. Russia would lend all needful assistance to protect the Leao-tong ports of Port Arthur and Talienwan, and would not permit any foreign power to encroach upon them.

This treaty, transferring to Russia's control the entire provinces of Kirin and Leao-tong, was likely to embroil China in troubles more serious than any she had lately known.

An imperial ordinance was published at St. Petersburg in December giving the Czar's sanction to the articles of association of the Eastern Chinese Railway Company, which was to construct and work a railway on Chinese territory in connection with the Russian Trans-Siberian Railway. The share-

holders were to be exclusively Russian and Chinese subjects. The line was to be completed in six years, and the capital was fixed at 5,000,000 paper roubles.

The total length of the Manchurian Railway would be 1,280 miles, of which 946 would be through Chinese territory, and 342 miles shorter than if built within the Russian border, and at most 400 miles southward of the latter in the region of better climate and more productive soil. The Chinese Government may either purchase the railway after thirty-six years, or take possession without payment at the end of eighty years. The concession to the company included commercial and industrial undertakings, the working of coal mines, etc. Goods in transit over the line were to be free from all Chinese taxes. Merchandise imported by the railway into China from Russia, or *vice versa*, would pay one-third less than the import or export duties levied at the Chinese seaports. The railway was to be guarded by the company's own police force.

The *National Zeitung* of Berlin, discussing the recently published arrangement for the construction of a Russo-Chinese railway, argued that the treaty could only be a fragment of a wider agreement, procuring for Russia the ultimate possession of Port Arthur.

The Emperor of China issued an edict in March, in which he stated that he had decided to encourage railways in every way, and in October appointed a high official, Sheng-Taotai, to take charge of railway construction. A railway was to be built between Peking and Hankow, and an American syndicate was ready to advance 30,000,000 taels for the purpose. The line was to be 700 miles long.

The Chinese Government in June signed a concession to a French company for a railway from Lang-son to Lung-chau. The construction of the Hankow, Canton and Suchau lines would require the expenditure of 40,000,000 taels.

In July the Russian Government asked the sanction of the Tsung-li-Yamen for the establishment of a bank to collect public revenues and transact all Chinese Government business. Russia obtained absolute freedom of trade in North China.

In March an imperial edict was issued extending the Customs Post Office Department, and establishing an Imperial National Post Service under Sir Robert Hart as Customs and Post Inspector-General.

About the time of the tidal wave disaster in Japan, a great wave extending for miles inundated the coast at Hai-chau in the province of Kiang-su, destroying a number of villages and drowning several thousands of the inhabitants. This took place on July 26.

The reception in Peking of the decennial tribute mission from Nepal to the Emperor of China took place June 23. The mission brought presents of elephants' tusks, gold dust, woollens and brocaded cloths, as well as a letter from the King of the

Gurkhas, as the ruler of Nepal is officially styled in China. There were two envoys, one of whom died in Peking and was cremated with Gurkha rites. The return presents from the Emperor consisted of a thousand taels of silver (about 180*l.*), four complete suits of fur, robes of wadded cotton and gauze for each member of the mission, besides silk pongees and gauze, Peking curios and the like, according to the ranks of the recipients. The members of the mission were taken to a part of the palace about a quarter of a mile from the place where the Emperor was supposed to be seated—for he was quite invisible—and there they went through the regulation three prostrations and nine *kowtows* in recognition of the imperial bounty. Only the chief envoy ever saw the Emperor, and this was on his arrival, when he presented the letter from his own sovereign avowing allegiance to China. The journey from Khatmandu to Peking occupied six months.

Li Hung Chang, the Chinese statesman, left Shanghai with a numerous suite, March 28, on board a French mail steamer for Europe, to represent the Emperor of China at the coronation of the Czar of Russia, and afterwards to visit other countries. He declared that his object was to see Europe for himself, in order to report to the Emperor as to feasible reforms for China. A great reception was offered to him at Hong-kong, but he refused to land by the advice of the European physician of the embassy, who feared lest any member of the suite, by catching the plague, would render the party liable to quarantine elsewhere. Proceeding to Singapore, *viâ* Saigon, he visited the Governor of the Straits Settlements. At Colombo he was received on landing by a guard of honour. After the Russian coronation he visited Germany, Holland, Belgium and France, and arrived in London early in August. Wherever he went he was lionised, and he lost no opportunity of asking questions and informing himself concerning the manufactures and armaments of the several countries he visited. He returned to China *viâ* New York and the Canadian Pacific Railway, sailing from Vancouver (Sept. 14) for Yokohama and Tien-tsin, where he arrived October 3. Thence he proceeded to Peking (Oct. 20), where he was received by the Emperor, and appointed a member of the Tsung-li-Yamen. At the same time for presuming to enter the precincts of the ruined Summer Palace while visiting the Empress Dowager after his return home, his enemies took occasion of the slight trespass to insult him, and proposed that he should be stripped of all his titles and honours, with the exception of the earldom, which is confirmed to the Li family for twenty-nine generations. The case was referred to the Board of Civil Appointments, and the Controller-General, Chang-chih-wan, decided that "according to precedent" the ex-Viceroy should be cashiered, but on account of his life-long and distinguished services to the imperial dynasty he should be

recommended to the clemency of the Throne, which took the form of a loss of one year's salary. He took over his seals of office in the Tsung-li-Yamen on November 1, but none of his colleagues were present to welcome him.

The death of Princess Chün, the mother of the Emperor, was announced as having taken place June 20. This did not refer to the Empress Tsi-Thsi, generally known as the Empress Dowager, who is only the adoptive mother of the reigning Emperor Kwang-Su. The Empress Tsi-Thsi nominally retired from public affairs when she surrendered the Regency on the coming of age and marriage of the Emperor in 1889, but she has since continued to exert a powerful influence over the Government. Reforms in China seemed to depend on whether the Emperor, who is an inexperienced, self-sufficient ruler, or the Empress Dowager with her ally Li Hung Chang was to be supreme. Li Hung Chang's attempts to introduce reforms were not altogether pleasing to Chinese conservatism.

The Emperor some time since issued a singular decree acknowledging the care and solicitude of the Empress Dowager for him in his early childhood, and referring to the immeasurable benefits of her advice on every subject, from peace and war down to the smallest detail of life and deportment. He complained of the conduct of two vice-presidents, Wang and Chang, who last year used vilifying words of the Empress Dowager, and now he cashiered them from their offices and from the public service for ever; adding that this was a slight punishment for the enormity of the offence, and that the court and ministers, high and low, might take warning from this not to try to influence him in his duty towards the Empress Dowager in future.

III. HONG-KONG.

Sir W. Robinson, the Governor of Hong-kong, complained that a Chinese official opened the Hong-kong Chinese Chamber of Commerce in a manner implying Chinese suzerainty. For this offence the official was publicly censured by the Viceroy of Kwang-tung in March.

Bubonic plague reappeared in February, and in April, May and June numerous deaths occurred among the natives from this cause. The period of greatest mortality was the week ending May 19, when there were seventy-five fresh cases and ninety-one deaths.

The citizens of Hong-kong were agitating for freer municipal government. Between May and December five or six prominent citizens were appointed unofficial members of the Legislative Council.

For entering the fort at Stonecutter Island, Hong-kong, with photographic apparatus, the captain and doctor of the German mail steamer *Hohenzollern* were sentenced to three

months' hard labour. An appeal was granted, and the sentence was afterwards modified to a fine of \$100, but some months later the money penalty was remitted.

The total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared last year at this port was 15,632,113 tons, an increase of 1,383,443 tons.

IV. KOREA.

The history of Korea for 1896 is full of Russian intrigue. In February there were stories of growing discontent in the country, emanating from Russian sources. On February 10 a force of Russian Marines with a field gun landed at Chemulpho, and advanced to Seoul. At the time they landed there was no disturbance in the country. The King, by a preconcerted arrangement, left his palace (Feb. 11) for the Russian legation, and there proclaimed his ministers guilty of treason. Two of them were arrested and executed—the others fled, and a pro-Russian Ministry was at once formed, in place of the pro-Japanese Ministry that had been in office since the Japanese *coup d'état* of October preceding. A very bitter feeling was aroused in Japan, but the Russian Minister declared that he had given protection to the King at his own request, and that Russia was not responsible. Japan then made advances to Russia with a view to joint-action, and a few months later it was rumoured that they had agreed to establish a joint-protectorate over Korea. It left Japan with little more than a nominal share of control over the country. In October the Japanese soldiers had practically evacuated Korea. Besides those stationed at Seoul and the other Japanese settlements but few remained in the peninsula. It was said that the new arrangement provided that the contracting Powers were at liberty to station in Seoul a force not exceeding 250 men. A number of Korean officers were accused of plotting to seize the King in November, and a Russian force of eighty sailors arrived at Seoul (Nov. 24). The King declined to return to the palace, and remained under Russian protection, giving the excuse that he still feared the Japanese. Russia lent 7,000,000 roubles to Korea, guaranteed by Russia's holding the two northern provinces.

V. JAPAN.

Marquis Ito, the Premier, with Count Itagaki, the Minister of the Interior, and the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, resigned in August, and the Emperor appointed Count Kuroda as Acting Premier. A difference, it was said, had arisen in the Cabinet respecting the appointment to be made to the vacant post of Minister of Foreign Affairs. Count Itagaki was the leader of the Radical party (*Jiyu-to*), and had lately joined the Cabinet at the Premier's invitation.

Marquis Ito had for some time shown a wish to retire.

His statesmanship had for many years been conspicuous in Japanese politics. His policy of adopting European methods in war was justified by the success of the Japanese arms in China; but in yielding to Russia, Germany, and France, and giving up the Leao-tong peninsula, he incurred the displeasure of the Progressionists.

Count Matsukata was appointed in September Premier and Minister of Finance; Viscount Takashima, Minister of War; and Count Okuma, the leader of the "strong foreign policy" party, Minister of Foreign Affairs. This *Kaishinto* or Progressionist party organised by Count Okuma was opposed to the further advance of Russia in the East, and was striving to exclude from Japan, as much as possible, all foreign enterprise.

The new Premier had much difficulty in forming a Cabinet. His policy for relieving the financial strain was to extend from seven to ten years the increase of the army to 500,000 men.

The Japanese Parliament was opened December 25, and the speech from the throne announced that relations with foreign states were increasingly cordial. Attention was called to the need of improving the national defences.

The Japanese Department of Agriculture issued a report calling public attention to the importance of improving the breed of horses for military purposes.

On the night of June 15 a great sea wave swept a large portion of the north-east coast of Japan. It seemed to have been caused by a submarine volcanic eruption at a short distance from the Japan coast. It blotted out several thriving towns and many small hamlets, and the loss of life was very great. About 30,000 people were killed, and 12,000 houses were destroyed. Kamaishi, a seaside town, suffered severely. Waves thirty feet high swept over the place, and out of a population of 6,557, there were killed 4,700, and 500 more were injured.

Disastrous floods occurred in the prefectures of Toyama and Shiga on the west coast in July. A great earthquake visited the north-east provinces on August 31. The town of Rokugo was entirely destroyed and other towns were severely damaged, and many lives were lost.

Viscount Miura, the Japanese Minister at Seoul, with others, who were charged with complicity in the *coup d'état* in Korea in 1895, were acquitted owing to insufficient evidence.

Japan concluded this year further commercial treaties with several nations, nearly identical with those already made with Great Britain and other Powers. A treaty with Belgium was signed in June, with Switzerland in November, and with Germany about the same time. German consular jurisdiction was to cease in Japan on July 17, 1899. This treaty opened the whole of Japan to German trade. A new commercial treaty with China was ratified in October.

Although industrial competition with other nations seemed

to give the advantage to Japan, a general rise in the expense of living and in the scale of wages was going on that would at least for some time give other nations an opportunity for supplying her markets. Articles of extraordinary cheapness were manufactured in Japan, but not generally of durability.

The imports from Great Britain for the first half of the year were valued at 4,971,984 yen; from British India at 2,203,968 yen; from Germany, 1,096,062 yen; from the United States, 909,936 yen; and from France, 898,490 yen.

A number of experts were sent by the Japanese Government to England, France, Germany and the United States in order to study the iron and steel making processes and plant of the several countries. The Government voted 500,000*l.* for the establishment of steel and iron works near Shimonoseki, which would when finished have an output of 100,000 tons a year.

For some time past the Japanese Government had been sending special agents to different parts of European Russia in order to open up fresh markets for Japanese goods, and arrangements were made for a direct line of steamers to run between Japan and the Black Sea ports.

Boycotting has become an established institution of Japan, owing to the trade guilds and the strictness with which the members are ruled. Two cases of boycotting during the past year excited a good deal of discussion. One was an agitation against Chinese merchants in Japan, to compel them to put an end to the old custom of levying a commission and a percentage from the Japanese. The combination against the Chinese was a powerful one, and consisted of many guilds, including those of sugar, silk fabrics, iron and copper, and marine products. In another case, a leading British firm of Yokohama imported to the order of a prominent Japanese merchant, who is director of an important bank, a parcel of goods. When the latter arrived the Japanese refused to take delivery, and the British importers having instituted legal proceedings in the native courts, judgment was given against the Japanese, who was ordered to take delivery of the whole of the goods and to pay the plaintiffs the cost and charges. Thereupon the guild of which the defendant is a member decided that the British importers and plaintiffs should be boycotted if they insisted on maintaining and enforcing their judgment, and as the resident partner of the British firm deemed it inexpedient to face a general boycott in Japan the firm submitted to a compromise involving a serious loss.

With the conclusion of peace a revival of industry and prosperity speedily took place, which soon surpassed anything ever experienced in Japan before. The demand for luxuries of every kind increased, prices rose, the carrying capacity of the railways was taxed to the utmost; industries of all sorts sprang up; what appeared a wild outburst of speculation took place,

but the money still seemed to flow in abundance for all enterprises. Wages in all classes of labour had risen, and the lower classes had a higher standard of living than ever they had before.

The total value of the foreign trade of Japan last year was 28,150,735*l.*, of which the imports were 13,526,710*l.* and the exports 14,624,025*l.* The British share of the whole trade was 10,609,167*l.*, the United States coming next with 6,819,422*l.* (mainly Japanese produce), then China with 3,283,921*l.*, France 3,218,452*l.*, and Germany 1,636,121*l.* Special mention was made of the very rapid increase in the trade with India. The trade in raw cotton was increasing very rapidly, and the Indian article was growing in favour. Of 182,000,000 lb. of cotton used by the Japanese mills last year over 81,000,000 lb. came from China and 72,000,000 lb. from India. The quality of the Chinese cotton had caused much dissatisfaction.

There was a continuous demand for railway material last year, and all rails for permanent way were obtained from England, but light rails for portable railways were generally obtained from Belgium. Pig iron was supplied exclusively by England; bar, plate, and sheet iron only by Belgium and Germany; the better classes of steel going from England. But it is now evident that British makers of steel rails must in future reckon with German and American competition.

Japanese revenue in 1896-7 was estimated at 15,000,000*l.*, and the expenditure at 16,460,000*l.*

The total cost of the war up to the end of the last financial year was \$225,000,000, of which \$80,000,000 had been repaid as indemnity, and a new war loan covered \$30,000,000 more. Previous war loans gave \$80,000,000 more, and the reserve fund supplied the balance. The supplementary budgets for Formosa and Wei-hai-wei together amount to nearly \$38,500,000, of which the estimated revenue from Formosa will meet over \$6,500,000, while Wei-hai-wei yields nothing. The national debt now amounts to \$520,753,119, or, taking the dollar at 2*s.* 2*d.*, to 56,415,141*l.*, of which only 130,360*l.* is foreign. It is intended that the debt shall all be redeemed in thirty-eight years.

Formosa.—Japan had a serious problem to solve regarding the disposal of the Chinese inhabitants of the island, numbering 2,500,000. There was no chance of their becoming loyal Japanese subjects. At the beginning of the year a rising of the natives occurred, and again in July and August there was a serious revolt provoked by the conduct of the Japanese soldiery in indiscriminately killing men, violating women and burning villages. According to all accounts the Japanese were treating the Chinese in Formosa with great cruelty.

The British camphor traders of Formosa contended that the rights which they have acquired from the aborigines were improperly subjected to vexatious regulation and taxation. They

alleged that the Japanese policy was purposely inimical to foreigners.

The new taxes threatened to crush the sugar and camphor trades.

The Japanese Government, notwithstanding the protests of the merchants engaged in the opium trade with Formosa, had resolved no longer to permit the trade to be carried on. The decree, issued in the Chinese language by the Japanese Governor of Formosa, forbade the import of opium into Formosa except as a medicine, as in other parts of the Japanese Empire. Those among the Chinese who were victims to the habit and who might suffer by its sudden cessation were to be provided for on application to the authorities, the supply being solely through a Government office.

In spite of the war there was a decrease of only 10 per cent. in the import trade of Formosa in 1895, mainly in opium, while the exports increased by 4 per cent. Japanese cotton cloths were increasing in popularity, because of the low value of silver and also because these cloths were more varied in colour and more suited to the changes of climate in Formosa. The imports of spirits, wine, and beer were increasing, because the Japanese residents consumed alcoholic beverages at three times the rate of Japanese at home. Although the Japanese are increasing rapidly, they have absorbed little of the trade.

VI. SIAM.

An agreement between Great Britain and France, in part relating to Siam, was signed, January 15, by which the Buffer State idea for the Mekong Valley was abandoned, and France obtained solid territorial gains. The advantages for Great Britain were doubtful. Great Britain agreed to withdraw from Mongain and hand it over to France, and France was conceded rights over a zone of twenty-five kilometres to the west of the Mekong River as well as the navigation of that stream. Each of the contracting parties bound themselves explicitly not to invade the territory left to Siam under any circumstances without the consent of the other, and not to permit any third Power to do so. The left bank of the Mekong was accepted as the Anglo-French frontier from the mouth of the Nam Huok to the borders of China. All commercial and other privileges and advantages conceded by conventions with China in the Chinese provinces of Yunnan and Szu-chuan were so far as rested with Great Britain and France to be extended and made common to both nations.

Serious riots took place at Chantaboon in March, owing to conflicts between Chinese and Anamite secret societies. The Governor of Chantaboon asked for French assistance to quell the riots.

Two Siamese postmen with mail bags *en route* from Kiang-

sen to Kiang-kong, both of which places are within Siamese territory, on the right bank of the Mekong, were arrested by Frenchmen in a steam launch on the river, and forcibly taken to Luang Prabang on August 20.

The entire capital of the projected railway between Bangkok and Petchaburi, on the east coast of the Malay Peninsula, was subscribed locally by the Siamese.

A singular incident occurred at Bangkok on September 7. A Cambodian named Kadir, a French *protégé*, was being tried for the murder of a Siamese, although the French Minister, M. Defrance, had claimed jurisdiction over him. The examination had scarcely begun when M. Defrance and the consul, M. Hardouin, entered the court, protested against the trial, and told the prisoner that he need not answer the questions put to him. They then withdrew. The judge suspended the sitting in order to consult the Government. After half an hour the trial proceeded, but finally the Government agreed to hand the prisoner over to the French Minister. To save appearances this was to be delayed for a few days. The payment of an indemnity was also expected.

CHAPTER VI.

AFRICA.

I. EGYPT AND THE SOUDAN.

AFTER a period of prosperous quiescence the history of Egypt has once again made an important contribution to the interest of the year. In domestic matters indeed there is little that is new or startling to record, only a continuation of the same story of steady and persistent progress in the face of unpopularity and opposition, a repetition of the same strange tale of wise and enlightened government succeeding in spite of jealousies and obstructions which grow no weaker as the years advance. As usual attempts have been made, this time on the initiative of the Sultan, to raise the question of our evacuating Egypt, and as usual such proposals have been without result. French influences have been pronouncedly hostile, but, owing to developments in the Soudan, Italian and German influences have been on the whole more friendly to us than before. The revenue returns, which are at once the simplest and the most conclusive argument in favour of our occupation, continue happily to be as encouraging as ever. The accounts for 1895, presented to the Council by Sir Elwin Palmer in February of this year, show the best results as yet obtained. The revenue amounted to 10,800,000*l.*, the expenditure to 9,700,000*l.*, and the surplus consequently to 1,100,000*l.* The receipts of the Caisse de la Dette amounted to 49 per cent.

more than was required to pay the interest on the Public Debt, and another sum of 363,000*l.* went to swell the general reserve in the Caisse's hands. But even after making this large allowance, and after deducting another item still larger, due to debt conversions and applicable for national purposes only with the consent of all the Powers, the substantial sum of 300,000*l.* was left at the Egyptian Government's disposal, a result beyond all question dear and refreshing to the financier's heart.

In matters of administration the Legislative Council has again exhibited its hostility to all reforms promoted by British influence, and has urged the Government among other things to stop the grants which it makes for the army of occupation and for the suppression of the slave trade. But neither the Egyptian Government nor their British advisers seem to pay any attention to these annual attacks. In the southern provinces the agricultural population are already showing signs of unexpected prosperity owing to the diminution of the land tax and to the improvements caused by better irrigation. The Minister of the Interior reports a steady improvement in the administration of the Omdehs or village chiefs and on the part of other local native officials too. The instruction of the police in the elements of criminal law and of judicial procedure seems at last to be giving satisfactory results. It is true that the native courts still require a great deal of supervision, that the independence of the judges is a principle which takes time to root itself in Oriental minds, and that at the close of the year it was found necessary, in view of a flagrant case of perversion of justice, to appoint three new European judges—two Englishmen and one Belgian—to strengthen the native Court of Appeal. But for all that both the organisation and the administration of justice have enormously improved. There are now forty-two Summary Tribunals, which this year tried 51,690 cases as against 46,346 in 1895, seven Courts of First Instance, two of Contraventions at Cairo and Alexandria, and the Supreme Court of Appeal at Cairo. These courts are amply sufficient to save litigants the long journeys which they had formerly to undertake, and the confidence of the people in them is steadily gaining strength, especially in those of them which have European guides. The Khedival School of Law supplies every year recruits enough for the needs of the magistracy. A spirit of *esprit de corps* is beginning to grow up among the judges themselves. With these indications of rising revenue and of increasing respect for order and for law there goes the same activity as ever on the part of the Government's English advisers in pressing forward railways, sanitation, and great public works. And though the Anglophobe press continues to be scurrilous and violent—in August two native journals in Cairo were suppressed for gross attacks upon the Queen—and though palace influences appear to give some encouragement to these demonstrations, the steady work of

good administration goes on with little interruption, and this year at any rate the British representatives have received from the Egyptian Government a loyal and consistent support.

But it is in the Soudan rather than at Cairo that the centre of interest has been found this year. An announcement made on March 13 in the columns of the *Times* was the first intimation given to the public in this country, and the first intimation also, we imagine, given to most people in Egypt, that the British and Egyptian Governments between them—acting, it has been suspected, chiefly on the advice of the War Office here—had decided to undertake a movement southwards, with a view to reconquering at least a part of the Soudan. The exact objects of the expedition it was at first very difficult to ascertain. Ministers here appeared unwilling to commit themselves to any definite explanations on the subject. There was to be an advance in the direction of Dongola. There were to be operations of a tentative nature against the dervishes, and if all went well, the advance was to be extended as far as finances and opportunities might permit. It appeared, however, that the motive for an expedition, the possibility of which at some time or other the military authorities both in Cairo and in Egypt had for a long time had in view, was partly to be found in the precarious position to which recent mishaps had reduced our Italian allies. A short time before, the Italian Army in Africa had sustained a crushing defeat at the hands of the Abyssinians under Menelek, and this disaster had exposed the garrison at Kassala to very real danger from the dervish forces. Whatever the exact motives of the Government may have been, however, an expedition was decided on, and in the middle of March preparations for the forward move began.

In order to defray the cost of the undertaking, it being obviously desirable to impose as little strain as possible on the slowly recovering finances of Egypt, it was determined by the Egyptian Government to apply for an advance of 500,000*l.* from the General Reserve Fund of the Caisse de la Dette, and the authorities of the Caisse obligingly handed over the money. On March 21, Sir Herbert Kitchener, the Sirdar of the Egyptian Army, to whom was entrusted the chief command, left for Assuan and Wady Halfa. He was accompanied by Major Wingate and by Slatin Pasha, whose services were destined for the Intelligence Department, and by the First Battalion of the North Staffordshire Regiment. At the same time preparations were made for carrying the railway rapidly southwards, and an advance column from Wady Halfa was pushed forward to take possession of Akasheh. The expeditionary force consisted for the most part of native Egyptians, fellaheen and blacks, guided of course by British officers and steadied by British battalions. A detachment of Indian troops—a grant for whose expenses the India Office in London insisted, in spite of the strongest protest from India, on extorting from the Indian Exchequer—was

brought over to garrison Tokar and Suakin, and to set free the Egyptian garrisons there to join in the advance. The organisation of the expedition roused great enthusiasm in Cairo. A large number of applications for employment came in to the War Office from every quarter. The Khedive gave his blessing to the undertaking, and many native Sheikhs, who had fled from the Dongola district, begged to be allowed to return with the army to the homes from which they had been driven. By the end of April, the expeditionary force was practically concentrated at Wady Halfa. The railway and telegraph were being carried on to Akasheh. Steamers for the river and camels for land transport were being assiduously pushed forward, and in spite of occasional skirmishes and of the steadily increasing heat the preparations for the campaign were going on at a great pace. Before that, however, the French and Russian members of the Caisse de la Dette had protested against the loan which the Caisse had made. The Caisse had been cited at the instance of the French Bondholders' Syndicate to appear before the Mixed Tribunals, and to answer for the misappropriation of its reserve funds. As the year wore on, the Mixed Tribunals pronounced against the loan. In December, the International Court of Appeal required the Egyptian Government to refund to the Caisse the 500,000*l.* which they had secured. The very next day, Lord Cromer offered an English loan to make good the advance. The Egyptian Government accepted his offer, and repaid immediately the 500,000*l.* to the Caisse; and the result of this somewhat absurd transaction is that England has thus strengthened her hold in another small point on the Government of Egypt.

A less agreeable result of these financial difficulties was that the expedition was from the outset very severely hampered by the want of funds. The authorities insisted on stringent economy, and that meant that the members of the expedition suffered. Money was saved by overworking the soldiers through all the hot season on the railway construction, the transport, and other fatiguing service, and the death rate and the sick list were consequently much higher than they ought to have been. It is a significant fact that 30 per cent. of the British officers who started with the expedition succumbed to illness or death, owing to the hardships of the campaign. To these difficulties others were soon added—intense heat, the thermometer in August touching 130° in the shade, severe storms of rain and sand, a good deal of fever, and a severe visitation of the cholera, which all through the summer was causing serious alarm in Egypt. In the first three weeks of July there were 700 fatal cases of cholera at Wady Halfa and other stations in the neighbourhood, mostly among the civilians, and among the black troops and their wives. On August 27 a tremendous cyclone nearly swept away the camp, destroyed the whole village of Ferkeh, broke down the

railway embankment for several miles, and seriously delayed the advance of the expedition. But all these difficulties were surmounted by hard work and good management, by endurance and pluck.

From a military point of view the expedition was from the first singularly successful. At dawn on June 7 the troops, advancing overnight from Akasheh, attacked a force of some 3,000 dervishes at Ferkeh, took them by surprise, captured their camp, and in spite of a determined resistance inflicted on them a crushing defeat. The enemy lost 2,000 in killed, wounded and prisoners, 1,000 rifles, 1,000 spears, and large supplies of camels and of horses. The black troops especially, according to the Sirdar's report, behaved "magnificently," and our loss was very small. Within twenty-four hours of the battle Colonel Burn-Murdoch had occupied Suarda, thirty miles beyond, and an immense moral effect was produced throughout the country. For three months after this victory active operations were suspended, owing chiefly to the difficulties which we have enumerated above. But early in September the general advance began again, and on Saturday, September 19, another important victory attended the efforts of the troops. At dawn that day the force advanced from Tumbus, and marched on Kerman, a strong fort six miles to the south, which the dervishes had built on the east bank of the Nile, and which had been occupied by Wad el Bishara with 4,000 picked men. Another fort, however, had also been constructed at Hafir, on the west bank of the river, close to which the navigable channel runs, and when the troops advanced on the Saturday morning it was found that Kerman had been evacuated, and that it was at Hafir that the enemy had resolved to make a stand. At half-past six, accordingly, fire was opened upon them there. At seven Commander Colville arrived with three of the four gunboats accompanying the expedition, and some very heavy firing followed, in which the artillery of the expeditionary force overpowered in the end the dervish musketry. At nine o'clock Colonel Parsons got some guns into position on a large island in mid-stream, thus greatly reducing the range of his artillery, and within a short time the dervish steamer lying under the fort was sunk. At half-past ten Commander Colville, taking advantage of the slackening of the fire from the fort, carried his vessels past the walls and steamed on towards Dongola, and soon after that the firing practically ceased. Early the next morning it was found that Hafir was evacuated, and that the dervishes, with their commander severely wounded, had fled into the desert, leaving behind them their great supplies of food and ammunition. Immediately the British and Egyptian forces crossed the river and took possession of Hafir, and without further resistance, to the apparent delight of the natives of the district, Sir Herbert Kitchener's army entered Dongola on September 23.

The effect of these brilliant operations, conducted as they were with great skill and patience, and crowned with the most complete success, has been very remarkable all through the Soudan. The resistance of the dervishes has, so far, apparently collapsed. Within six months, after two pitched battles, a great province has been restored to Egypt. The wave of fanaticism and barbarism has been rolled back some hundred miles. A wide and fertile country has been won again for commerce and for civilisation. And the way has been opened, if it should be thought desirable to follow it, for the ultimate reconquest of Khartoum. Even more satisfactory is the excellent conduct shown by the Egyptian Army—another proof that our thankless labours for the reorganisation of Egypt have not been without result. On the whole we may once again congratulate ourselves that our work there has been well done, and may continue to sustain with “unctuous rectitude” the criticisms dictated by envy or dislike.

II. SOUTH AFRICA.

Cape Colony.—An official announcement was made on January 6 that Mr. Cecil Rhodes had resigned the Premiership of the Cape Ministry. He was succeeded by Sir J. Gordon Sprigg, who had twice before been Premier. Mr. Rhodes sailed for England on January 15.

Mr. Hofmeyr, the leader of the Afrikaner party, published a letter in March in which he expressed his firm conviction that Mr. Rhodes knew of the concentration of a strong column of the Chartered Company's force on the Transvaal frontier before the Jameson raid. He sent no warning to the Transvaal Government and made no effort to prevent the inroad, and he had not conducted himself in the manner to be expected from a Premier of Cape Colony enjoying the confidence of the majority of the Afrikanders. Sir Gordon Sprigg stated in a speech that no member of the late Ministry, save Mr. Rhodes, knew anything of the antecedent circumstances of the Transvaal crisis.

The select committee in the Cape Assembly appointed to investigate the Jameson raid made their report on July 17.

The committee were of opinion that no member of the then Colonial Government, with the exception of the Premier (Mr. Cecil Rhodes), had any knowledge or suspicion of the intention to send an armed force across the border of the South African Republic. The local directors of the De Beers Mine were acquitted of anything beyond negligence. With regard to the Chartered Company, the committee found that the principal officials in Cape Town either knew, or were in a position to have known, the existence of the plot. Two at least of the directors, Mr. Beit and Mr. Cecil Rhodes, were, with Dr. Jameson and Dr. Rutherford Harris, active as promoters and

moving spirits throughout. The date of the inroad was fixed weeks beforehand, and the letter of invitation was obtained four weeks before the ostensible date of signature. As regards Mr. Rhodes, the committee could come to no other conclusion than that he was thoroughly acquainted with the preparations that led to the inroad, and that he directed and controlled the combination which rendered it possible. There was no evidence, however, that Mr. Rhodes ever contemplated that the force at Pitsani Camp should at any time invade the Transvaal uninvited; but the committee could not find that that fact relieved Mr. Rhodes from responsibility for the unfortunate occurrences which took place. The committee regretted that Mr. Rhodes was not present at their inquiry to give his own account of the proceedings, the more so as they were reluctantly forced to the conclusion that the part taken by him in the organisation which led to Dr. Jameson's inroad was not consistent with his duty as Prime Minister of the colony. The committee found that the Chartered Company supplied all the funds for the raid with the knowledge of the London office, and that Mr. Rhodes subsequently covered the amount with a cheque.

A minority report said that the committee were unable to trace any guilty knowledge to the head office of the Chartered Company in Europe, and recorded the opinion that Mr. Rhodes was not only without knowledge of Dr. Jameson's intention to move the armed force under his control into the South African Republic at the time, but, when he did become aware of it, did all in his power to prevent a further inroad, and that his action in preventing the possibility of any movement of a Rhodesian force and in repudiating Dr. Jameson's action was in good faith; and that Mr. Rhodes could not, on the evidence before the committee, be held personally liable for any improper communications between any official of the British South African Company and Dr. Jameson or any officer under him in connection with the inroad.

On July 24 Mr. Schreiner in the Assembly moved the adoption of the majority report, saying that it was the most painful duty he had ever performed, that it was not the London Board of the Chartered Company which was responsible but Mr. Rhodes personally. His aim, however, was high, said Mr. Schreiner, and there was nothing small or sordid in his actions. No other member spoke, and Sir Thomas Upington made no attempt to speak on his minority report. The House at once agreed to the motion.

Sir J. Gordon Sprigg, in making the financial statement in the House of Assembly early in June, said that the railway receipts during the past year had exceeded the estimate by nearly 1,000,000*l.* His estimate of the surplus for the current year was 1,250,000*l.*, and for the following year 366,000*l.* net. Notwithstanding the events of the year the prices of Cape

stocks had advanced from 114 to 118, a rise of 4 in the year, and Cape stock stood higher than any except British stock itself—partly because the Cape remained a part of the British empire, and the Power that commanded the sea must dominate South Africa, and partly because the loans were employed almost entirely in reproductive works.

The revenue of Cape Colony for the year ended June 30 was 6,855,587*l.*, an increase of 1,448,089*l.*

The Cape imports for the past year amounted to 18,771,371*l.*, as compared with 19,094,880*l.* in 1895. The decrease is due to the fact that the previous year's imports included nearly 5,500,000*l.* of specie, which item only amounts this year to 836,332*l.* The exports were 16,970,168*l.*, against 16,904,756*l.* The details are : Colonial produce, 3,801,072*l.* ; diamonds, 4,646,487*l.*, and Transvaal gold, 8,252,543*l.*

The Queen conferred a Peerage on the High Commissioner, Sir Hercules Robinson, in July, who took the title of Lord Rosmead. He returned to Cape Town from England on September 1 and was most cordially welcomed.

The Select Committee of the Cape Assembly on the defence of the colony recommended the increase of the Cape garrison artillery to 800 men, and a colonial defence force of at least 2,600 men to be organised for the protection of the Cape. The estimate of the cost was given at 40,000*l.* per annum.

The Customs Conference opened at Cape Town on September 7, and representatives of Cape Colony, Natal, and the Orange Free State were present.

Much alarm was caused at the Cape by the spread of rinderpest in South Africa, and a day of humiliation, fasting, and prayer was appointed in October. The Government were making efforts to prevent the spread of the pest across the Orange River. In consequence of the rise in the price of meat owing to the rinderpest there was an agitation in favour of abolishing the duty of 2*d.* per lb. on frozen meat. The import of hides from Natal was at first prohibited, but afterwards the proclamation was withdrawn as it was officially stated that no rinderpest existed in Natal. A conference was held to consider how to transport wool and hides to England without risk of spreading the cattle disease.

Gold was discovered at Grahamstown in September.

Natal.—Sir W. Hely-Hutchinson, Governor of Natal, opened the Colonial Legislature at Pietermaritzburg on April 8, and in his speech expressed his profound regret at the unforeseen incursion of Dr. Jameson and his followers into the territory of the Transvaal. He stated that the revenue of the colony would greatly exceed the estimated outlay owing to the railway with the Rand. He said that Natal was now prepared to confer with its neighbours, and was ready to discuss fiscal and other questions affecting their mutual interests, especially that of the free exchange of African products. The question of

the annexation of Zululand was being considered by the Imperial Government.

The Natal delegates to the South African Customs Conference, held in September at Bloemfontein, withdrew because the conference declined to accept the Natal tariff.

The traffic returns of the Natal Government Railway were rapidly increasing through the completion of the junction with the Transvaal system. The revenue reports for the first half of the year were exceedingly good. Income was given as amounting to 482,948*l.* and expenditure to 190,158*l.* The working expenses were but 39·37, and the Natal railway profit exceeded the whole charge of the public debt. The profits for the entire year were nearly 11 per cent.

Natal imports for 1896 amounted to 5,437,862*l.*, as against 2,459,303*l.* for the previous year, and the exports to 1,785,375*l.*

The Government proclaimed in August a liberal rebate of duty on mining implements and requisites. Natal contains more coal, according to Professor William Crookes, than Great Britain owned before a single bucket had been raised.

A statue of Sir Theophilus Shepstone was unveiled by the Governor of Natal in October at Pietermaritzburg, the assembled Zulus lifting their arms towards the statue and shouting their approval.

Sir John Robinson, the Premier, sailed for England, September 4, for the benefit of his health, and returned to the colony in December.

Orange Free State.—Judge Steyn was elected President of the Orange Free State in February by a large majority over Mr. Frazer, the rival candidate. President Steyn opened the Volksraad on April 8, and in his speech referred to various subjects of interest to the state. He was ready to submit the question of establishing a limited referendum for any alteration of the Constitution. He said that President Krüger and he were desirous of holding a conference on the matter of a closer union of the South African Republic with the Orange Free State, and he submitted that the Volksraad should consider whether it was not time for the Free State to take over its railway, and recommended protection for the farming industry.

In May the Volksraad were debating questions of defence. The War Commission recommended that ammunition should be bought, the artillery force strengthened, the barracks increased, and that a fort should be built at Bloemfontein. The Volksraad rejected the railway convention with Cape Colony by thirty-eight votes to eighteen. This was attributed to fear that the proposed branch lines would interfere with the independence of the state. The Netherlands Railway Company of the Transvaal made an offer to the state to run the line, and it was said that the agents of that company were making great efforts to gain control of the Orange Free State railways in order to harass British interests. The Volksraad, however

(July 7), agreed to a resolution in favour of taking over the railways by the Government by a vote of twenty-five to nineteen, at a cost of 2,780,000*l.*

A Customs Union Conference was held in the Free State by invitation of the Volksraad. Delegates from the Orange Free State and from Cape Colony were present, and a new customs union tariff was arranged, to be submitted to the Parliaments of the respective states. The tariff was to be increased on ale, beer, explosives, confectionery, preserved fruits, powder, guns, spices, spirits, tobacco, vinegar and wine, and to be reduced on candles, coffee, dates, ginger, paraffin, rice, sugar, meat and wood. Agricultural machinery, metals, railway and tramway material, and various manufacturing materials were to be free. The general *ad valorem* duty was reduced to 9 per cent.

At a special session of the Free State Volksraad held in October the President asked for a decision as to the desirability of having a customs union without an agreement upon the railway tariff question. Two Orange Free State members of the conference had signed a minority report favouring a transit union only with uniform transit rates everywhere, leaving each state to frame its own customs tariff and collect the duties. The Volksraad finally confirmed the customs protocol with the new tariff, but some discontent was caused by the inclusion of Basutoland within the union.

Transvaal.—For a long time the condition of affairs in the South African Republic had been unsatisfactory to the Uitlanders. The Boers gave them no political rights, and continual appeals brought no redress for their grievances. At the end of the year 1895 matters were in a very critical state in Johannesburg. The situation was graphically described in the following letter addressed to Dr. Jameson, and signed by leading inhabitants of the town :—

“JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 28, 1895.

“TO DR. JAMESON,

“DEAR SIR,—The position of matters in this state has become so critical that we are assured that, at no distant period, there will be a conflict between the Government and the Uitlander population. It is scarcely necessary for us to recapitulate what is now matter of history; suffice it to say that the position of thousands of Englishmen and others is rapidly becoming intolerable. Not satisfied with making the Uitlander population pay virtually the whole of the revenue of the country, while denying them representation, the policy of the Government has been steadily to encroach upon the liberty of the subject, and to undermine the security for property to such an extent as to cause a very deep-seated sense of discontent and danger. A foreign corporation of Hollanders is to a consider-

able extent controlling our destinies and, in conjunction with the Boer leaders, endeavouring to cast them in a mould which is wholly foreign to the genius of the people. Every public act betrays the most positive hostility, not only to everything English, but to the neighbouring states as well.

“In short, the internal policy of the Government is such as to have roused into antagonism to it not only practically the whole body of Uitlanders, but a large number of the Boers; while its external policy has exasperated the neighbouring states, causing the possibility of great danger to the peace and independence of this republic. Public feeling is in a condition of smouldering discontent. All the petitions of the people have been refused with a greater or less degree of contempt; and, in the debate on the franchise petition, signed by nearly 40,000 people, one member challenged the Uitlanders to fight for the rights they asked for, and not a single member spoke against him. Not to go into details, we may say that the Government has called into existence all the elements necessary for armed conflict. The one desire of the people here is for fair play, the maintenance of their independence, and the preservation of those public liberties without which life is not worth living. The Government denies these things, and violates the national sense of Englishmen at every turn.

“What we have to consider is, What will be the condition of things here in the event of conflict? Thousands of unarmed men, women, and children of our race will be at the mercy of well-armed Boers, while property of enormous value will be in the greatest peril. We cannot contemplate the future without the gravest apprehensions. All feel that we are justified in taking any steps to prevent the shedding of blood and to insure the protection of our rights.

“It is under these circumstances that we feel constrained to call upon you to come to our aid. Should a disturbance arise here, the circumstances are so extreme that we cannot but believe that you and the men under you will not fail to come to the rescue of people who will be so situated. We guarantee any expense that may reasonably be incurred by you in helping us, and ask you to believe that nothing but the sternest necessity has prompted this appeal.”

In the closing months of 1895, a force of Chartered Company's troops had been concentrated on the borders of the Transvaal at Mafeking and Pitsani. The nominal object of this force was to superintend the extension of the Vryburg-Mafeking Railway, but the Reform Committee had secretly imported arms into Johannesburg, and stores had been provided at various points on the route which an invading force would probably take.

On the afternoon of Sunday, December 29, Dr. Jameson at the head of 400 or 500 troopers crossed the Transvaal border and advanced towards Johannesburg. A part of this force was recruited

from volunteer regiments in Cape Town, and a part from the disbanded Bechuanaland Border Police. Sir John Willoughby was in command, with thirty officers, including Colonel White, Colonel Grey, Major Robt. White and Major Coventry. They had six Maxim guns. The news of the invasion caused a profound sensation in England and throughout the world. The Colonial Office was taken completely by surprise. The Secretary for the Colonies, Mr. Chamberlain, telegraphed at once to Sir Hercules Robinson, the High Commissioner at Cape Town, to stop Dr. Jameson and to issue a proclamation repudiating his act, and forbidding all British subjects in the Transvaal giving him aid or comfort. On January 2, Sir Hercules telegraphed to Mr. Chamberlain that messengers overtook Jameson ten miles beyond the other side of the Eland River, and brought back verbal messages that despatches had been received and would be attended to; that Dr. Jameson had received both his messages and had disregarded them. Efforts to stop the further progress of the raid appear to have been made by the Chartered Company, by Mr. Rhodes, and by the Reform Committee at Johannesburg. Meanwhile the Boers were called out by General Joubert, and on the morning of New Year's Day a fight took place near Krugersdorp, which was described by one who took part in it as follows:—

“We mounted a very steep kopje in skirmishing order in a terrible thunderstorm, the Boers having entrenched themselves on an opposite and strongly fortified hill. We put several shells into their fortifications, but were unable to dislodge the Boers. The order was then given for the skirmishers to charge, but there seems to have been some misunderstanding, as only twenty-five men charged, about fifty going round to the left and trying to take the Boers in the flank. It was during this movement that we saw how strong the Boer position was, for a very heavy fire was immediately poured on both parties. The attack proving fruitless, the column was ordered to make a *détour* to the right, which we succeeded in doing, but we were so hemmed in by the Boers that it was decided to laager for the night, hoping for assistance from Johannesburg in the morning. The laager was formed in a rough hexagonal square, horses and ammunition waggons inside, the men lying outside shoulder to shoulder, with a Maxim pointing out from each corner. We were twice attacked before this was completed, and again at about 9 P.M., but repulsed the enemy each time without loss on our side. During the night we were told we were to make a rush for Johannesburg in the early morning, but we were attacked just before dawn, and again on our attempting to unlaager, losing three men killed and four or five wounded. We managed to get away at about 5 A.M., and making a long *détour* to the right rode at a fast canter towards Johannesburg, followed by the Boers, who continually harassed our rear. After three hours

of this running fighting we were brought to a halt at Doornkop, where we perceived a strong force opposed to us. We succeeded in taking one kopje, but the second was too strongly held, and had, moreover, a splendid natural fortification of rocks. We fought on, however, till ten o'clock, when on receipt of a command from the English Government to return to the border Dr. Jameson ordered the white flag to be hoisted."

President Krüger, when he knew that Jameson was on the way, adroitly prevented the invaders and the disaffected Uitlanders in Johannesburg from acting together, for he sent for the leaders of the Reform Committee, promised to allay their grievances, and arranged an armistice with them. No force, therefore, came out to meet Dr. Jameson from the town, and he surrendered with all his men after eleven hours' fighting against a force of nearly 2,000 Boers. Much sympathy for Dr. Jameson was expressed in England, especially as it appeared that he had responded to an urgent appeal from the citizens of Johannesburg and they had left him to defeat and capture. The German Emperor sent on January 3 a telegram of congratulation to President Krüger in terms that seemed to be intentionally offensive to Great Britain, and this wanton act aroused for the time the deepest anti-German feeling.

Mr. Chamberlain, while repudiating the proceedings of Dr. Jameson, exerted himself to secure merciful treatment for the prisoners. The High Commissioner went to Pretoria on January 4 to discuss the crisis with the Transvaal Government. It came out afterwards that a considerable section of the Uitlanders had determined to redress their grievances by peaceable means if possible, but if not, by force of arms, and they had given the letter to Dr. Jameson, not with the expectation that he would interfere in their behalf, but in the hope that President Krüger would yield their claims without any resort to force.

They were not prepared for fighting, but as soon as news came that Dr. Jameson's party had been attacked they began to arm, and after the surrender of Dr. Jameson they desired to go to rescue him at Pretoria.

President Krüger kept them quiet by promising that the town should not be invested pending the arrival of Sir Hercules Robinson, and that their grievances would be discussed with him. Sir Hercules Robinson, through the British agent, Sir Jacobus de Wet, represented to the Johannesburg people that they would endanger the lives of Dr. Jameson and his men if they resorted to force. They therefore consented to lay down their arms. It was understood by the Reform leaders and the public of Johannesburg if arms were laid down that Dr. Jameson and his officers would be handed over to the imperial authorities for trial in England, the lives of the Reform leaders would be spared, and some redress of grievances would be conceded.

On January 8 President Krüger surrendered the prisoners to the British Government to be dealt with for a breach of the neutrality laws. Praises were lavished on him for his magnanimity, and the Queen sent him a message expressing her satisfaction, but about two months later it was known that Dr. Jameson had not surrendered unconditionally at Doornkop after the fight, but because the Boer commandant, Krönje, had given a written promise to spare the lives of the officers and men of the force. This fact had been kept secret from the British authorities.

The disarmament of Johannesburg was effected, January 8, and within two days after, the chief Uitlander leaders were arrested and charged with high treason. The troopers of the raid were sent to Durban, January 11, and Dr. Jameson and his officers sailed for England, January 21, to take their trial. Mr. Chamberlain endeavoured to gain concessions for the Uitlanders and invited President Krüger to England. For a long time he seemed disposed to accept, but when he found that the British Government declined to discuss any revision of that clause in the London Convention of 1884, which prevents the Transvaal from making treaties with foreign Governments, he refused the invitation.

On January 15 Mr. Cecil Rhodes left Cape Town for England and arrived on Tuesday, February 4. Considerable suspicion had attached to him with regard to inciting the raid. He had been the Cape Premier and the Chairman of the Chartered Company. He saw the directors of the Company in London and placed his resignation as managing director of the Chartered Company in their hands to be used if circumstances required. He had already resigned the Cape Premiership. He talked with Mr. Chamberlain and other prominent men, and left again for South Africa, February 10, landing at Beira and proceeding to Matabeleland, where a native insurrection had broken out.

The four Reform leaders of the Uitlanders—Messrs. Lionel Phillips, Hays Hammond, Farrar, and Colonel Rhodes, Mr. Cecil Rhodes' brother—were tried at Pretoria and condemned to death, but their sentences were very soon after commuted to fifteen years' imprisonment, and then to a fine of 25,000*l.* The other fifty-nine prisoners were fined 2,000*l.* each. Every prisoner was compelled to promise also not to interfere in Transvaal politics under pain of banishment. Colonel Rhodes would not give the promise and was therefore banished.

The Transvaal Government published a number of documents and deciphered telegrams that seemed to prove that Mr. Rhodes was the mainspring of the Jameson invasion.

The Cape Parliament appointed a committee that published further documents which appeared to show that Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Beit, directors of the Chartered Company, were privy to Dr. Jameson's raid, and that the chief officers of the

Company in Cape Town were active in promoting it. The London Board, however, was not implicated, and Mr. Rhodes paid all the expenses of the invasion, amounting to over 70,000*l.*, out of his own pocket.

The Volksraad passed a stringent law in October muzzling the press, and an Aliens' Expulsion Act of the most despotic kind, which was to come into force at the beginning of the year.

More than 700,000*l.* was spent by Krüger and General Joubert in the purchase of cannon, Maxim guns, rifles, and ammunition during the year. A large part of this money was obtained by fines imposed upon the Uitlanders who had sympathised with the raid. In the estimates issued in August of revenue and expenditure the revenue was set down at 4,462,193*l.*, war expenditure at 943,510*l.*, and special expenditure at 585,350*l.* Of the 4,000,000*l.* of revenue the Uitlanders pay 3,500,000*l.* Education was 103,000*l.*, but grants to English children under this head did not amount to 800*l.* The gold produced in the Transvaal for the year was valued at 7,000,000*l.*

Mr. William Conyngham Greene was appointed to be her Majesty's agent in the South African Republic in August, in place of Sir Jacobus de Wet, resigned.

Rhodesia.—A very serious rising broke out in Matabeleland in March, caused in part by the stringent measures taken to stamp out rinderpest in the country, and no doubt also by the removal of a part of the usual police force, and the defeat of Dr. Jameson. A force of native Matabele police rebelled, and shot their inspector, Mr. Bentley. Massacres of white settlers took place in different settlements, and as the revolt spread, the authorities were obliged to adopt the most energetic measures. Mr. Rhodes arrived from England, and organised a force for the relief of Bulawayo and Gwelo, then completely invested. The military administration of Rhodesia was no longer in the hands of the Chartered Company, and Sir Richard Martin, an imperial officer, was made Deputy High Commissioner, and took command of the Company's forces. Earl Grey succeeded Dr. Jameson as administrator, and Sir Frederick Carrington was charged with the military conduct of the campaign. A force of colonial volunteers was raised under command of Colonel Plumer.

Desultory fighting went on for months. The natives took refuge in the Matoppo Hills, from whence it was difficult to dislodge them. It was impossible to concentrate any large body of troops. Finally General Carrington decided to invest the hills with a chain of forts. On July 5 the rebel Matabele were attacked by Colonel Plumer among kopjes near Inyati, and driven out after a severe fight. On August 5 Colonel Plumer fought a decisive battle with the combined impis of the chiefs Secombo and Umlagula. The fight was long and severe, Major Kershaw and Lieutenant Hervey were among the killed, and a number of officers were wounded.

The natives fought steadily till Colonel Plumer's column was reinforced by cavalry, when they broke away and ran to their caves. Shortly after the rebels sued for peace, and Mr. Cecil Rhodes volunteered to open the negotiations. He arranged for an indaba with the chiefs, and on August 20 went with only three attendants, all unarmed, into their stronghold in the Matoppos Hills. The Matabele indunas were also unarmed, except a few who carried battle-axes. They acknowledged that Mr. Rhodes had won their confidence by coming to them unarmed. After a long discussion with Secombo and the other chiefs, in which complaints were made of the native police, Mr. Rhodes asked whether they were for peace or war. Secombo laid a gun and an assegai on the ground as tokens that they desired peace. Some days later at a great indaba a large force of Matabele laid down their arms, and the general pacification of the country soon followed. Although desultory fighting continued for some time, the chiefs acknowledged that they were beaten, and were weary of war. It was computed that in the rising the Matabele and Mashonas lost 8,000 killed, wounded and prisoners.

III. EAST AFRICA.

Abyssinia.—Reinforcements arrived from Italy, so that early in January General Baratieri's army numbered over 29,000 men with 15,000 native levies. The Shoans made repeated attacks on the position at Makaleh, held by 200 Italian soldiers with 1,000 native allies, but were repulsed with considerable loss. The Italians made a sortie from the fort to prevent the enemy from cutting off their water supply, and Menelek seemed about to withdraw and move on Gheralta to collect supplies. Surrounded by the immense army of Menelek (80,000 men armed with breech-loading rifles) the little garrison at Makaleh were forced to capitulate, and marched out with their arms and ammunition, their wounded and baggage, under formal assurances from Menelek and Ras Makonnen, and arrived in the Italian camp near Adagrat on January 30. General Baratieri's army was further reinforced in February, and numbered 37,000 troops, including the trained native levies. The Negus Menelek proposed that an Italian officer should be sent to the Shoan camp to negotiate for peace. Menelek made it a condition of peace to Major Salsa, who conferred with the Negus, that the Italians should retire from the territories lately occupied by them, and that the treaty of Uccialli should be radically modified. General Baratieri replied that such proposals could not be admitted as a basis for discussion. On February 22 all the forces of the enemy effected a junction in the district of Adowa, and held the hills in front of an Italian position. General Baldissera was on his way from Italy to take the chief command of the forces in Erythrea, as

the army there was larger than one of General Baratieri's rank could command. To win a victory before he could be superseded General Baratieri ordered an attack, but met with a crushing defeat. On Sunday, March 1, the troops advanced in three columns with a reserve. The passes leading to Adowa were captured without fighting; but the Shoans drove back General Albertone's column with irresistible force. General Arimondi's column tried to cover the retreat of General Albertone, but could not do so owing to the difficulties of the ground and the overwhelming odds against them. General Dabormida was killed, and the whole army was forced to retreat. All their guns, fifty-two in number, were captured, and there was a loss in killed, wounded and missing of nearly 7,000 men. The Shoan Army was about 100,000 strong. There was no pursuit, and the Italians were allowed to re-form and hold Massowah and the surrounding country. There were 1,500 Italian prisoners in the Shoan camp on March 19. <General Baratieri was tried by court-martial, and acquitted of everything but a grave error of judgment.> Some fighting took place in March between the Italians and a force of 5,000 dervishes on the slopes of Mount Mocran near Kassala. The dervishes were defeated with great loss. In May the fort at Adagrat was completely evacuated by the Italians. After many delays a treaty of peace was negotiated by Major Nerazzini between Italy and Abyssinia, and signed October 26. It abrogated the treaty of Ucciali and recognised the absolute independence of Ethiopia. The frontiers were to be settled by friendly agreement within a year, and all prisoners were declared free. The Emperor Menelek telegraphed himself to King Humbert the happy news.

Zanzibar.—Hamid-bin-Thwain, the Sultan of Zanzibar, who succeeded to the throne in 1893, died suddenly, August 25, probably by poison, and his cousin Said Khalid with some 1,200 armed soldiers of the late Sultan seized the palace and proclaimed himself successor by firing a royal salute. The British war vessels in the harbour landed 150 men at once. The usurper continued to hold the palace. The next day another force of 250 men was landed from the British cruiser *St. George* which had just arrived at Zanzibar, and an ultimatum was sent to Khalid informing him that unless he made complete surrender by 9 o'clock on the following day (Aug. 27) the palace would be bombarded. He said, however, that he would rather die in the palace than leave it, and at the appointed hour the ships opened fire. In forty minutes all the enemy's guns were silenced and the palace and the old custom house were in blazing ruins. The Sultan's old gunboat was sunk in the harbour. Blue-jackets landed from the war ships and extinguished the fires caused by the bombardment. There were about 3,000 persons in the palace when the bombardment took place, and it was estimated that 500 persons were killed or wounded. Only a

few Arabs were among the dead, and most of the killed were Askaris. The usurper Khalid with leading Arabs fled at the first shot to the German consulate, and they all left their slaves and followers to do the fighting. The German Consul refused to surrender Khalid because the extradition treaty between Great Britain and Germany stipulated that a fugitive delinquent should not be given up for a political offence, and without giving any notice of his intention, on October 2, he placed Said Khalid upon a German war vessel and took him to German territory. The British Consul at Zanzibar, Mr. Cave, urgently protested against this act. The British naval force at Zanzibar was strengthened in October by the return of Rear-Admiral Rawson's flag ship, H.M.S. *St. George* and by the cruiser *Gibraltar*. The new Sultan, Said Hamud-bin-Mahomed, was proclaimed October 27, and was well received by the Arabs. The British Government did not choose to abolish the Sultanate, but all military, financial and executive affairs, however, were under direct British control.

British East Africa.—It was formally announced in September that all the East African territories under British protection, except Uganda and the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba, were joined in an "East African Protectorate."

On the coast of the British East African territory the notorious rebel chief Mbaruk attacked the town of Malindi, February 12, at the head of 200 men and set fire to a number of houses. In a fight several of the rebels were killed, but the chief escaped into German territory. A sikh regiment of Indian troops arrived at Mombasa from Bombay to follow up Mbaruk and his men, but the rebel chief with 1,100 followers surrendered to Major von Wissmann at Mau in German East Africa, and he was sent to the south of Tanga, where he was to remain.

The estates of several rich Arabs were confiscated in September on the ground that their owners had assisted the recent Zanzibar rebellion.

Uganda.—All was quiet in Uganda, which belongs to the Zanzibar Protectorate, and the whole country was developing in a wonderful way. The King was entirely friendly, and the natives were attached to British rule. The revenue of the year was three times that of any previous year. The Buganda were adapting themselves to English customs. They had an efficient postal service, and a "Kampala Lukiko" or Parliament House in which the King, with the British Resident seated next to him, discussed the affairs of state with the assembled chiefs.

Matters were quite peaceful in Unyoro. The territory of Unyoro, with that part of the British sphere lying west of Uganda and Unyoro, was placed within the limits of the Uganda Protectorate, which included also Usoga and the other territories to the east under the Imperial Commissioner and Consul-General for the Protectorate.

The ceremony of laying the first rail of the Uganda Railway

took place at Kilindini on May 29. The Union Jack was hoisted and the band of the 90th Baluchistan Regiment played "God save the Queen." The Imperial Commissioner had sent an agent to India to negotiate terms with British Indian subjects willing to try their fortune in Uganda in industrial occupations. A large force of workmen, including clerks, engineers, and highly skilled artisans, arrived at Mombasa from Bombay, May 8, and reached Uganda in August. Good pay was to be given them, and other bodies of workmen and labourers were to follow to be employed chiefly in building the railway. The cheap line with three feet gauge, which was to be built with very light rails for 1,755,000*l.*, was not considered practicable. The estimated cost of a serviceable line was not less than 3,000,000*l.*, and 520,000*l.* was the estimate of the work for the current financial year. The line was progressing at the rate of half a mile per day. A bridge 1,700 ft. long at Mombasa, from the island to the mainland, was opened on August 8, which had been built in three and a half months.

Portuguese East Africa.—It was declared that the agreement between Great Britain and Portugal of 1893, relating to the Barotze frontier, was continued until July, 1898, making the limit of the Portuguese boundary the Zambesi from the east of Angola to the Katima cataracts and thence to its confluence with the Kabompo River, and then following the course of that stream.

Gungunhana, the King of Gazaland, was captured by the Portuguese forces at Chaimite, and with his seven wives and his son, Godide, was brought to Lisbon in March.

The rapidly growing importance of Beira to the trade of British South Africa is shown by the following statistics: In 1892 the transit trade amounted to only 440*l.*; in 1894 it was 42,300*l.*; and last year 142,960*l.* The transit trade of Germany into British South Africa in 1895, through Beira, amounted to 7,160*l.*; of France, 1,365*l.*; of Great Britain, 70,840*l.*; of Bombay and Zanzibar, 1,480*l.*; of the Cape, 22,100*l.*; of Natal, 31,340*l.*; and of Port Elizabeth, 3,275*l.*; so that Great Britain and her colonies send nine-tenths of these transit imports.

A good steamship service between Beira and South Africa is of great importance to British trade, as it would assist in preventing the shipping trade of Beira from drifting into other hands. At one time a British company tried to incorporate the east coast trade as far as Zanzibar with their intermediate service, but the steamers were too large to enter two of the principal ports, and a German line, with smaller vessels, took practically all the trade of those two places. The present arrangements are unsuitable. About 1,200 passengers per annum have arrived at Beira in three years, and about 900 per annum have left.

Major Albuquerque, Governor-General of Mozambique, set out for Manicaland in October at the head of a Portuguese

force with some native troops. While in bivouac at Magenga the expedition was attacked by 2,000 Namarallos. The Portuguese kept the natives at bay for twenty-two hours, but then had to retreat owing to want of water. On October 19 Major Mousinho marched against the Namarras and completely routed them. One European and one native soldier were killed. Major Mousinho and his adjutant were slightly wounded. Nineteen European soldiers and fourteen loyal natives were wounded.

Lack of adequate landing facilities at Lorenzo-Marquez was causing serious inconvenience to trade with the Transvaal.

German East Africa.—A railway, 1,180 miles long, starting at Bagamoyo and Dar-es-Salaam to run to Lakes Tanganyika and Victoria Nyanza, was projected. German capitalists were, however, slow to invest money in colonial enterprise without guarantees from the Imperial Government.

There was another rising of the Wahehe tribe this year. The natives succeeded in driving from their country a small force of German troops, but a stronger force was sent against them and subdued them. The Wawemba tribe made an incursion from English territory near the northern end of Lake Tanganyika in the summer.

Some progress was made in restraining the slave traffic, but the slave-trade markets in Zanzibar and Pemba needed to be closed before slave-raiding could be entirely repressed. Major von Wissmann issued a circular to local officials for the suppression of the clandestine slave trade.

Active steps were taken by the authorities to prevent the destruction of elephants in German East Africa. Licences were required for hunting them, and reserve lands were set apart where they were to be safe from attack.

Major von Wissmann resigned his post as Governor of German East Africa owing to continued ill-health, and Colonel Liebert was appointed in his stead.

Madagascar.—The modified treaty of Antananarivo was signed by the Queen of Madagascar, January 18, but it was found to contain inconsistent clauses implying, now that the island was a protectorate, and now that it was an integral part of French soil. Annexation had not been carried out from fear of the enormous expenses and responsibilities, and the Government of the Queen had been maintained as a ready-made organisation on which to lean. Great Britain and the United States declined to recognise the system of "taking possession," and held that as annexation had not been declared their treaties with Madagascar still held good. The French Government, therefore, decided to put an end to an ambiguous situation, and to declare that Madagascar would be henceforth a French colony, in order to secure to Frenchmen and French products a privileged position in the island. There was to be no change in internal administration, and the Queen was to retain her title with such advantages as it conferred.

M. Laroche arrived in January and assumed control of affairs as Resident-General, but he was not successful in quieting the island. There was friction between the civil and military authorities. Bands of robbers mustered in thousands, and were burning villages and driving away cattle. In short the island was in a state of anarchy. In July the whole of Imerina, the region of Andianaka and the country north of Betsileos was in open revolt. The rebels were threatening to march upon the capital, and no serious steps were taken to check them.

In September, M. Laroche was recalled, and General Gallieni was appointed Resident-General and Commander-in-Chief. The need of a soldier rather than a civil governor was manifest. At this time matters were very gloomy. M. Laroche before leaving the island issued a decree, September 27, abolishing slavery, without either gradual abolition or compensation, but it was said that some of the military authorities caused notices to be circulated that the decree was misleading.

General Gallieni ruled with a strong hand, and in November the situation sensibly improved. Rainandrianampandry, late Minister of the Interior, and Prince Ratsimananga, uncle of the Queen, were convicted of complicity in the rebellion and were executed. The Prime Minister resigned and no successor was appointed. General Gallieni having full military authority was able to suppress the rebellion. Communication between Tamatave and the capital was re-established, and at the end of the year 2,000 men were being employed under a *corvée* system in opening up good roads. A labour law intended to counteract the evils of sudden emancipation of the slaves was in preparation, and a canal from Tamatave to Andevoranto, to facilitate transport by water between the coast and the interior, was projected.

IV. WEST AFRICA.

Ashanti and Gold Coast.—The war in Ashanti, for which a formidable expedition under Sir Francis Scott had been fitted out, was happily bloodless. No resistance was offered to the British forces at any point on the way to Kumassi, the capital. The troops entered Kumassi in full force January 17. King Prempeh was, as usual, in a drunken condition, but seemed impressed with the military display. On the 19th Governor Maxwell informed him of the conditions of peace. They included the payment of a war indemnity of 50,000 ounces of gold. The King said he was ready to make his submission. Taking off his crown, he placed his head between the Governor's feet. At the conclusion of the ceremony the Governor asked for the payment of the indemnity. The King replied that he only possessed 680 ounces of gold, and asked for delay. Governor Maxwell then referred to the

promise made twenty-two years before which had never been fulfilled, and told the King that he would be deported to the coast together with the Queen-mother, his near relatives, and several of the leading chiefs. Prempeh was held a prisoner at Elmina Castle, and afterwards taken to Sierra Leone. A fort was built in the centre of the capital Kumassi and finished in October.

The death of Prince Henry of Battenberg caused widespread sorrow and sympathy throughout the British Empire. The Prince, who had volunteered to serve in the expedition, was taken ill with fever on the way from Cape Coast Castle to Kumassi. He sailed for Madeira on the cruiser *Blonde*, January 17, with somewhat improved health, but had a relapse on the voyage from which he was too weak to rally.

The Ashantis hailed the advent of the British, for the deposition of the King and the taking over of the country by them was known to mean that all human sacrifices and other atrocities would cease. The expedition had the effect of closing one of the chief slave markets of the Mahomedan traders. Railway communication was wanted with the interior to develop trade and the mineral resources of the country. Export of gold dust had much fallen off since the abolition of slavery.

Sir W. E. Maxwell arrived in England in the summer, and returned to his post in October.

Nana the Benin chief was conveyed, under a strong guard, from Old Calabar to Accra, November 2. He was to be kept at Christiansborg on the Gold Coast.

Gambia.—It was reported at Bathurst in March that the French and English Boundary Commissioners had returned from the interior after settling most amicably the boundaries between Senegal and Gambia.

Mr. R. B. Llewelyn, C.M.G., Governor of Gambia, returned from England to his sphere of duty in November.

Sierra Leone.—In February the Governor, Colonel Cardew, held palavers with a number of chiefs to secure the establishment of a British Protectorate over certain places hitherto only within the sphere of British influence. In April Sierra Leone was suffering from a dearth of water. The first British railway engine that has ever run in West Africa was put on the new railway in May. The Government forbade the recruiting of labourers in the colony for employment in the Congo Free State, under a penalty of 5*l.* per head; and was about to increase the duty on cotton goods from 7½ to 10 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Members of a secret cannibal society styled "The Human Leopards" were arrested, tried and hanged in August. The society originated among the imperi in the island of Sherboro, and many victims had been killed and eaten during the past twenty years.

The frontier between Sierra Leone and the French possessions was settled in May, and the colony secured a very considerable *Hinterland*, which before had been undefined. The interior, unlike the coast, is comparatively healthy. It has an ample water supply, and an exceptionally fertile soil. Rice grows with scarcely any cultivation, and the rubber vine is found everywhere.

The admission of traders from Sierra Leone into Liberia, the negro Republic on the west coast, was regarded with much jealousy, and in June and July some twenty Sierra Leone traders were summoned and fined under an act of Liberia, which provided that no foreigner was allowed to traffic outside a port of entry except through a Liberian broker. A club also was formed at Grand Bassa with the object of harassing Sierra Leone subjects and driving them out of the country. The houses of two Sierra Leone merchants were set on fire, and Liberians threatened to shoot any who attempted to extinguish the flames. In October at the Liberian port of Cape Palmas the British steamer *Benin* was fired upon by a Liberian gunboat. The President of Liberia met the Governor of Sierra Leone, and it was agreed that compensation should be paid for the outrage on British subjects, but the commander of the British gunboat *Alecto* had to threaten to land blue-jackets and seize the Custom House before the Liberian Government would pay. The British steamers *Erasmus* and *Kwarra* in November were fired at by Liberian gunboats at Cape Palmas. The negro captain of the gunboat came on board the *Kwarra*, and told the English captain that he must pay for taking labourers from Liberian ports, but the Englishman protested against the firing of shot.

Lagos.—Emboldened by Captain Bower's defeat of the Alafin of Oyo, a number of slaves in Oyo fled to Ibadan claiming their freedom. A British force in the Yoruba district (back of Lagos) was unexpectedly attacked (March 31) by 2,000 Ilorins. Other attacks were made on the British garrison at Odo Otin in April, but were repulsed with much loss to the natives. Captain Bower, the British Resident at Ibadan, was seriously hurt at Agbomasho in July. A fire had broken out and threatened to reach the magazine. The garrison fled, and Captain Bower, in removing the powder, was burnt by the exploding of a rocket that he carried.

An ordinance was passed in Lagos under which a drawback of duty would again be allowed on spirits exported from Lagos to the French colony of Dahomey, making the amount paid in Lagos on spirits in transit the same as formerly, only 1½d. per gallon.

The Hourst Expedition passed through Lagos on its way to Dahomey in October, the Acting-Governor giving Lieutenant Hourst a special permit. The expedition left Senegal three years ago and stayed ten months at Timbuctoo, and was most

completely equipped. Exhaustive geographical and geological surveys were made, and in the British territories the French lieutenant was very hospitably received.

The Lagos rubber trade was thriving and for the last three years had amounted in the aggregate to over 250,000*l.* There was danger that reckless tapping of the trees would destroy the industry.

Sir Gilbert Carter sailed for England in the summer, and it was doubtful whether his health would permit his return to the colony.

In May the Emir of Nupé, in the Lagos *Hinterland*, crossed the Niger to Kabba with a large army of infantry and horsemen, in defiance of treaty arrangements, and formed a permanent camp. It was expected that the Niger Company would send an expedition to dislodge him, fitted out with all the modern appliances of war.

Niger Coast Protectorate.—The tyrant of Benin, on the border of the protectorate, was causing obstruction to British trade, and repelled all friendly negotiations. Great cruelties were practised by this King, including human sacrifices.

King Koko of Brass refused the terms offered to him by the British Consul-General, and was therefore outlawed.

The British military expedition sent to Okrika, near Bonny, returned in May. The Okrika men were notorious cannibals. The British Consul-General threatened to demolish their town, but before this was done the chiefs surrendered with their King Bakisuku. The Ju-ju houses lined with the skins of human victims were all destroyed, and the natives promised to give up cannibalism.

The stronghold of the brigand slave raider Katchella on the Middle Binue River was destroyed in August, after desperate fighting, by the Niger Company's forces under Lieutenant Festing of the Royal Irish Rifles.

Captain H. L. Gallwey was appointed, in October, Acting-Commissioner and Consul-General of the Niger Coast Protectorate during the absence of Mr. R. D. Moor.

The Royal Niger Company were organising an expedition in November, and the French Government were assured that French claims or interests would not be affected thereby. It was supposed that the expedition would be sent against the Ilorin tribe to end their slave raids over the border, or against Nupé. An explosion took place in the arsenal of the Emir of Nupé close to the palace at Bida on the Upper Niger, killing several hundred natives.

Sir George Taubman-Goldie, the Governor of the Niger Company, arrived from England on December 28.

An expedition was preparing in December by the protectorate forces against Benin City.

Congo Free State.—An endeavour to turn to account the mineral wealth of the Katanga and Upper Kassai was made by the state.

The court at Boma acquitted Major Lothaire of the charges against him in putting to death Mr. Stokes, although compensation had been paid to the British and German Governments for the "irregularities of the procedure." The British Vice-Consul Arthur at Boma lodged an appeal against the finding of the court. In August the superior court at Brussels also acquitted him of criminal intent.

Baron Dhanis on June 29 left Stanley Falls at the head of a large, well-equipped expedition for Nyangwe and Kasongo, in the Arab zone.

Affairs in the Upper Congo region were in a very satisfactory condition, and Governor-General Wahis, after his tour of inspection, reported great progress in the Cataracts and Stanley Pool districts. In the neighbourhood of Tumba the cultivation of the coffee plant was very successful. In June the annual financial statement of the Congo State was published. The imports for 1895 were of the value of 12,000,000 frs. The budget for 1897 was presented in December. The receipts were estimated at 9,369,300 frs. and the expenses at 10,141,871 frs., leaving a deficit of 772,571 frs. Among the receipts were included the 2,000,000 frs. advanced by the Belgian Treasury and the 1,000,000 frs. annually furnished by King Leopold. The tribute paid by the native tribes supplied 3,500,000 frs., while the export and import duties would bring in 2,020,000 frs. The estimated expenses include 4,944,045 frs. for the public forces.

V. CENTRAL AFRICA.

British Central Africa.—Expeditions against Tambala, Mpemba, and Chimbalanga, native chiefs who had continuously raided caravans, were successfully made early in the year. A number of slave traders were captured in Angonaland. In the early autumn an attack was made on the south-western portion of the protectorate by the Angoni Zulus under Chikusi. The chiefs of this tribe were related to the Matabele south of the Zambesi, and Matabele refugees had brought a story that the Matabele in the south had worsted the British. The raids of this chief had been checked by the establishment of forts in the Upper Shire district, and he was therefore eager to fight the British. On October 8 he attacked one of the Zambesi mission stations at Ntonda. Some 300 refugees had fled to the station for protection, and the missionary hid them in large underground chambers. Chikusi had been murdering native Christians without mercy, and he demanded the surrender of these refugees. The missionary replied: "I cannot defend anybody outside of my houses, but the interior of my house is sacred, and I defy you to cross the threshold." Chikusi turned away and pursued the fugitives who were outside the shelter. Captain Stewart left Zomba, October 12, with fifty-eight Sikhs

and 200 native troops, and reached Chikusi's head kraal, October 21. They passed a great number of burned villages and heaps of speared and mutilated bodies. Chikusi's town was burnt. The chief himself was taken, and charges of murder and raiding were proven against him. He was sentenced to death and shot. A short time before, an expedition under Lieutenant Alston succeeded in capturing the raiding Yao chief, Katuri.

In October Odete, a powerful Angoni chief, a headman of Chikusi, was captured in his stronghold, but as he had not been actively concerned in Chikusi's massacres he was exiled to a fort in the protectorate.

The entire population of the protectorate numbered 844,995, and consisted almost entirely of natives. The native population of the Blantyre district was reported to be 22,206. Many freed slaves had settled in the district. The cost of coffee cultivation had materially increased, and food was scarce owing to the visitation of locusts. The value of coffee from the protectorate was estimated for the season to amount to 320 tons valued at 19,200*l.* The prices of land in Blantyre township had increased from 30*l.* and 40*l.* to 100*l.* and 112*l.* per acre, and numerous brick buildings were erected. One great pest of the country, the tsetse fly, was gradually disappearing. It was, however, never found in the hills. A tract of country, known locally as the Elephant Marsh, lying on the Shiré River above Chiromo, and abounding in buffalo, water buck, and zebra, was set apart, on and after September 15, as a preserve for the larger game animals. The country is a paradise for sportsmen.

The Commissioner, Sir H. H. Johnstone, after recovering from a serious attack of fever, went in May to England for a few months, leaving Mr. Alfred Sharpe Acting Commissioner.

CHAPTER VII.

AMERICA.

I. UNITED STATES.

THE state of parties in the Congress of the United States at the opening of the year 1896 (the first session of the fifty-fourth Congress convened in regular session, December 2, 1895) was as follows: In the Senate—forty-four Republicans, forty Democrats, six Populists. In the House of Representatives—246 Republicans, 104 Democrats, seven Populists. Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois was Vice-President of the United States, and President of the Senate, and Thomas B. Reid of Maine was Speaker of the House of Representatives. President Cleveland's Cabinet included Richard Olney of Massachusetts, Secretary of State; John G. Carlisle of Kentucky, Secretary of the Treasury; Daniel S. Lamont of New York, Secretary of

War; Judson Harmon of Ohio, Attorney-General; William L. Wilson of West Virginia, Postmaster-General; H. A. Herbert of Alabama, Secretary of the Navy; Hoke Smith of Georgia, Secretary of the Interior; and J. S. Morton of Nebraska, Secretary of Agriculture.

President Cleveland decided to refuse the terms offered by the Morgan Syndicate for replenishing the gold in the Treasury, and to try to obtain the money by a popular loan. On January 6 the Secretary of the Treasury issued proposals for \$100,000,000 in gold or gold certificates in exchange for 4 per cent. thirty-year coin bonds in denominations of \$50, or multiples of that sum. Proposals were to be received at the Treasury in Washington till noon on February 5. It was an experiment which appealed to the patriotism of the country. At the opening of the bids in February there had been scheduled 3,707 bids representing \$380,212,500 at prices ranging from par to \$119, and there were additional bids of at least \$75,000,000. The Morgan Syndicate bid for the whole amount at \$1,106,878. The loan had been subscribed for four times over, and the Treasury Department announced that bids for bonds to the amount of \$66,788,650 had been received at prices above the bid of the Morgan Syndicate. The new bonds realised for the Treasury \$111,378,836, and the great success of the loan caused the liveliest satisfaction in the country.

The President signed, January 4, the proclamation admitting Utah as a State of the Union. No interference was made by the proclamation with marriage ties contracted under the system of polygamy, but prohibited for the future any man with a wife or wives from marrying another woman.

Many important matters were discussed in Congress, but few laws were enacted. The Senate Finance Committee reported, January 7, a bill for the unlimited coinage of silver at sixteen to one, in place of the House of Representatives' Bond Bill which had passed December 29 by 170 to 136 votes. The Senate Bill directed the Secretary of the Treasury at his option to redeem both U.S. notes and Treasury notes in either gold or silver, and it substituted silver certificates for all National bank notes under \$10. Every Republican member of the committee opposed the bill. In the Lower House the bill was rejected, February 14, by 216 to 91 votes. The President signed in April an act repealing the statute under which those who fought on the Confederate side in the Civil War were excluded from posts in the army and navy.

The Senate ratified the Behring Sea Treaty negotiated in January between the Secretary of State and Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Ambassador.

The draft convention between Great Britain and the United States for the determination of the damages to which the British vessels seized in Behring Sea are entitled under the Paris award was assented to by the Dominion Government,

which also accepted a proposal of the United States Government that, in the event of the commissioners under the convention being unable to agree, the President of the Swiss Republic should nominate an umpire.

President Cleveland vetoed the River and Harbour Bill, which authorised expenditure amounting to \$80,000,000 on public works; many of them, it was claimed, of local importance only. By 220 votes to 60 the House of Representatives (June 2) passed the bill over the veto, and the next day the Senate did the same by 56 to 5 votes, and the bill became law. It was estimated that this act would increase the next year's deficit by \$8,000,000 to \$12,000,000.

A bill passed both Houses providing an educational test for intending emigrants. It did not pass the Senate until December, when an amendment was adopted making the age limit for exclusion above sixteen years, and Cubans during the continuance of the revolt in Cuba were excepted from this exclusion, which in the original bill applied to males between the ages of sixteen and sixty who could not read and write some language, and also to aliens coming yearly to the United States to labour without any intention of becoming settlers. Later this bill was vetoed by the President.

Concurrent resolutions dealing with Cuban affairs and according belligerent rights to the insurgents in that island passed the Senate in February by the large majority of 64 to 6. This caused anti-American demonstrations in the chief cities of Spain, and aroused a warlike spirit in the United States. The Cuban resolutions sent up by the House of Representatives, which included intervention, were not acceptable to the Senate. The Senate resolutions, recognising belligerency and offering the good offices of the United States to Spain in behalf of Cuba, were adopted by the House of Representatives (April 6) by a vote of 244 to 27. In August President Cleveland issued a proclamation again commanding the citizens of the United States to observe neutrality towards Cuba, and giving notice that any violation of neutrality would be vigorously prosecuted.

On December 9 three resolutions were introduced in the Senate by Senators Call, Mills and Cameron demanding the recognition of Cuba, and the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, to whom these were referred, agreed (Dec. 18) to report in favour of the Cameron resolution, *viz.*:—

“Joint resolution acknowledging the independence of the Republic of Cuba: Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled: (1) That the independence of the Republic of Cuba be and the same is hereby acknowledged by the United States of America. (2) That the United States will use its friendly offices with the Government of Spain to bring to a close the war between Spain and Cuba.”

In vain did Mr. Olney, the Secretary of State, tell the Senate Committee that the proposed recognition was inexpedient, unwise, and premature. As soon as he had left the committee-room they flung his counsels of prudence to the wind and forthwith ran up the jingo flag.

But the power to recognise the so-called Republic of Cuba rested exclusively with the Executive, and among the powers of Congress as defined in the Constitution the recognition of any states whatever was not included. No decisive action on the subject was taken by Congress before the close of the year.

Among the catastrophes of the year was the wrecking of the city of St. Louis, Missouri, on May 27 by a cyclone of terrible violence. Buildings were thrown down, roofs were carried away, and enormous damage was done to property. Some 400 persons lost their lives in St. Louis alone, and about 1,000 more were injured. In villages and towns near by in Southern Illinois there were many killed and wounded. Thousands of people were homeless. The damage done to property in St. Louis was estimated by the mayor at \$20,000,000.

The storm struck the city shortly after five. For about an hour in the afternoon the atmosphere was sultry. Then a breeze sprang up, veering from all parts of the compass. Heavy clouds swept across the sky, flying hither and thither in soft mist-like formations. The shifting currents seemed gradually to concentrate, till one storm centre developed to the westward. From the south-west a funnel-shaped cloud was seen approaching. The sun was still an hour above the horizon, but the clouds which preceded this tornado speedily changed daylight into darkness, and when the cyclone struck the city it was as dark as it is at midnight. The storm swept along the levee and through East St. Louis, destroying everything in its course. Meanwhile a hurricane from the north-west shook the western portion of the city. Thousands of people were hurrying homewards from the business centre. The electric lights having gone out, and the street car and railway service being suspended, these people found themselves in utter darkness and in rain which was now coming down in sheets. On the west side of the river, within a three-mile strip along the Mississippi, scarcely a building escaped injury, and many collapsed into heaps of ruin.

Perhaps the most impressive evidence of the force of the storm was the complete wrenching off of the eastern end of the handsome Eads Bridge, tons and tons of masonry being torn off and hurled into the river. The wires being down, the currents of electricity contributed to the destruction of life. The alarm system was paralysed, and the relief corps found it almost impossible to release sufferers or extricate the dead. One conflagration in this quarter of the city caused damage to the extent of \$100,000, and this was increased by a dozen other fires, while the fires in East St. Louis added \$500,000 to the loss.

In one instance many lives were saved by the presence of mind of the driver of the Chicago-Alton train. When half-way across the bridge he realised the danger which threatened the train, as he saw the carriages leaning over and overhead poles snapping and tumbling, while beneath the stones of the bridge were plunging into the water. He at once went full steam ahead, not a moment too soon, for the upper span of the bridge was blown away, and tons of granite tumbled on to the tracks where but a moment previously the train heavily laden with passengers had been.

The tower of the workhouse crashed through the building together with the supporting columns, completely obliterating the structure. Wonderful to say, of the 1,030 inmates, of whom 750 were insane, not a single life was lost.

Many curious freaks of the storm were related. Some streets for block after block showed the houses overturned on their faces, while the roadway was filled with household goods, uprooted trees, and tangled masses of wire. The storm jumped over some areas, leaving them unharmed, and then dipped again. Many tenement houses had their side walls torn out, leaving the inmates, occupied in their household duties, caring for their injured relatives or friends, or mourning the dead, in full view of the crowds filling the streets.

The path of the storm was about half a mile wide and four long.

Decoration Day was observed, May 30, in New York with the usual ceremonies. The graves of the soldiers who fell in the Civil War were decorated, and there was a parade of troops. Among them were a small company dressed as Cuban rebels carrying the Cuban flag. They secured admission to the ranks through the Grand Marshal in charge, who was a state, not a national officer. The Spanish Minister remonstrated, but the United States Government had no official control of the matter.

In July the Ancient and Honourable Artillery Company of Boston, U.S.A., visited London, and were received with hearty enthusiasm. At the invitation of the Queen they visited Windsor, and were inspected and entertained by her Majesty. The Prince of Wales invited them to Marlborough House, and a review of troops was held at Wimbledon in their honour.

The riots and lynchings of the year were fewer than usual. A remarkable case of lynching occurred in June at La Plata, Charles County, Md. An Englishman named Cocking was found one morning in his cellar with his legs bound by ropes, where he said he had been thrown by robbers. Upstairs his wife and sister-in-law were found murdered in bed. Cocking was charged with the crime, but he steadily protested his innocence. It was alleged that to save legal and prison expenses twenty-five men entered the prison at night, dragged out the prisoner and hanged him. This was done deliberately

in cold blood, two months after the arrest. Governor Lowndes of Maryland offered a reward of \$1,000 for the arrest and conviction of the lynchers. There were cases of lynching in Kentucky, and three Italians—murderers—were lynched near New Orleans. Ohio and South Carolina this year legislated against lynching. Ohio defined lynching as “any act of violence exercised by a mob upon the body of any person,” and passed a law giving the sufferer by any lynching the right to recover from the county from \$500 to \$5,000. In case of death the legal representatives of the deceased were to recover \$5,000 for the benefit of wife, children or relatives—the county having a remedy against any persons in the mob. South Carolina in cases causing death made the county liable for \$2,000, with remedy against the parties concerned.

Three thousand silver miners, who had been on strike for three months, on September 21 made an attack with guns and dynamite on the Colorado and Emmett mines, near Leadville. Five men were killed and many were wounded, and much valuable property was destroyed. Some of the strikers fled to the hills when the entire force of Colorado militia was called out.

Great damage was done and much loss of life caused on the Atlantic coast in September by a violent hurricane. In Savannah, Georgia, ten or more persons were killed, and the damage was estimated at \$500,000. The streets were strewn with wreckage. Great havoc was caused in Pennsylvania. A bridge at Columbia, belonging to the Pennsylvania Railway, a mile and a quarter long, and which cost \$1,000,000, was almost entirely swept away. Timbers from the bridge were carried the distance of a mile. In Washington, D.C., trees were uprooted in nearly every street, and one lofty building was blown down. At Alexandria, Va., four fatal accidents occurred. New York City and the eastern states of New England escaped with little damage.

Early in August most of the states suffered from the effects of a “heat-wave.” There were seventy deaths from sunstroke and heat apoplexy in New York and the vicinity, and many deaths in other districts. Thirty-six deaths due to the intense heat were reported on August 10. During the twenty-four hours preceding Wednesday noon, August 12, there were 177 deaths from the heat in New York and the suburbs. While the heat-wave lasted horses fell dead in the streets faster than they could be carted away.

At Buffalo, New York, the Mayor at one minute past midnight, November 16, formally announced the receipt of electric power from Niagara Falls by a salvo of twenty-one guns. Buffalo is twenty-six miles distant from the falls, and a small stream from the cataract rapids, falling a distance of 175 feet, was made to turn a turbine driving a vertical steel shaft at a speed of 250 revolutions per minute, and connected with a

dynamo developing 5,000 horse-power of electrical energy in an alternating two-phase current of 2,200 volts. By three of these generators 15,000 horse-power was produced. The Buffalo Street Railway Company was employing the power to run their tramcars, and many manufacturers in the city were availing themselves of it.

Early in January President Cleveland appointed the Venezuela Boundary Commission in accordance with his special message of last year. The names of the members of this commission were: David J. Brewer, one of the Justices of the United States Supreme Court (chairman), Andrew Dixon White, Daniel Coit Gilman, Richard H. Alvey, and Frederick R. Coudert. These gentlemen were to determine the boundary for the satisfaction of the United States between British Guiana and Venezuela. While ignoring this commission or the right of any other country to intervene, the British Government prepared its case, and the blue-books stating the claims of Great Britain were, at the request of the United States ambassador, communicated to the American Government. Venezuela also published her statement. But before this boundary commission had made any report of their exhaustive researches, Mr. Olney, Secretary of State, had solved the question with Lord Salisbury by arranging for a treaty of arbitration between Venezuela and Great Britain. Settled districts were to be excluded from arbitration, and to determine what were "settled districts" it was agreed that the same lapse of time which protected individuals in civil life from having their title questioned should also protect the English colony from having its title questioned.

The presidential election year had arrived again. For months it had been generally conceded that the Republicans would have an easy victory, but shortly before the meeting of the nominating conventions it became apparent that the free silver party was making great efforts to capture the presidency. No demand for free silver coinage had been heard till 1876. Owing to large increase in production the price of silver in that year fell more than 14 per cent. The first Free Coinage Bill appeared in Congress in July of that year, and from that time the silver agitation stimulated by the silver mining interest in Colorado and Nevada was carried on with vigour. The Free Coinage Bill of 1876 failed to pass, but in 1878 a bill authorising the Government to buy from \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000 of silver bullion each month for coinage into silver dollars at the ratio of 16 to 1 with gold passed over the veto of President Hayes. In 1890 the Sherman Act authorised the purchase of 4,500,000 ounces of silver bullion per month, and the issue of Treasury notes in payment therefor. This was a concession to the silver party made by Republicans to gain votes. Meantime the price of silver was steadily declining. The more business became unsettled and the harder times became, the more persistently

the silver men accused the gold policy of the Government, and demanded free silver as the only remedy. For years politicians of both parties developed this delusion merely to gain the silver vote.

The Republican Convention for the nomination of candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States met at St. Louis, Missouri, on June 16. A platform was adopted upholding protection, the Monroe doctrine, "honest money," and the present gold standard until an international agreement allowed the free coinage of silver. A proposal by the silver party to substitute a free coinage plank for that in favour of maintaining the gold standard was rejected by 814½ to 108½ votes. Twenty-one silver delegates protested and withdrew from the convention. On the first ballot William McKinley of Ohio was nominated as candidate of the Republican party for the Presidency, receiving 661½ votes, Mr. Reed of Maine had 84½ votes, Mr. Quay of Pennsylvania 60½ votes, Mr. Morton of New York 58 votes, Mr. Allison of Iowa 35½ votes, and Mr. Cameron of Pennsylvania 1 vote. Necessary to a choice, 462 votes. The nomination was afterwards made unanimous. Garret A. Hobart of New Jersey was nominated for the Vice-Presidency.

At the Democratic Convention which met in Chicago, July 9, William Jennings Bryan of Nebraska was nominated on the fifth ballot, receiving 500 votes, Mr. Bland of Missouri had 106 votes (on the first ballot he had 235 to Mr. Bryan's 119), Mr. Boies of Iowa 26 votes, Mr. Matthews of Indiana 31 votes, Mr. Pattison of Pennsylvania 95 votes, and Mr. Stevenson of Illinois 8 votes. Delegates not voting, 162. Changes were made during the voting giving Mr. Bryan more than the 512 votes necessary to a choice.

There were five ballots for a candidate for Vice-President, resulting in the nomination of Arthur Sewall of Maine—a millionaire Silverite. The nominations were made afterwards unanimous. It was Mr. Bryan's speech in favour of the free silver party which gave him the nomination. It was a skilful appeal to passion, and doubtless the result of a carefully concerted plan.

He likened the silver cause to the Crusades, and he closed his fervent speech amid the wild cheers of the convention with this remarkable peroration: "You shall not set on the brow of Labour a crown of thorns; you shall not crucify mankind on a cross of gold."

The platform of this party was opposed to gold monometallism and demanded the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 of gold without waiting for the consent of any other nation, and held that tariff duties should be levied for revenue purposes, denouncing the McKinley tariff.

The People's (or Populist) party held a convention at St. Louis, July 24, and nominated Mr. Bryan for their candidate

for President, with Thomas E. Watson of Georgia for Vice-President.

The silver party in convention at St. Louis, July 23, nominated Bryan and Sewall.

The split caused in the Democratic party by the action of the Chicago Convention in favour of free silver, resulted in the meeting of the National Democratic party at Indianapolis, September 2, to nominate candidates for a gold standard platform. Their delegates numbered 824, and represented every state except Nevada, Utah, Idaho and Wyoming. On this ticket General Palmer of Illinois was nominated for President and General Simon Buckner of Kentucky for Vice-President.

The time before the election was spent in a most exciting canvass. Mr. Bryan, who was a man of great physical endurance, barely thirty-six years of age, a ready speaker with a powerful voice and a magnetic presence, went through the country expounding the creed of the free Silverites, and in many places he created much enthusiasm. Major McKinley remained at his home in Canton, Ohio, and addressed the thousands from near and far that came to see him on the political issues of protection and the gold standard. The old parties were disintegrated. Many sound money Democrats were ready to vote for McKinley, and many Silverite Republicans supported Bryan. As the election drew near it began to be seen that Mr. Bryan and his party were not only preaching repudiation under the guise of currency reform, but were appealing to the most submersive elements of the country. The result up to the last seemed doubtful. The election took place on Tuesday, November 3, in all the forty-five states of the Union, and Mr. McKinley was elected by a large majority. The total popular vote was 13,875,653. Mr. McKinley received of these 7,123,234 votes, and Mr. Bryan 6,499,365 votes. Mr. Levering, the Prohibition candidate, received 125,485 votes, and General John M. Palmer, the Gold Democratic candidate, 125,037 votes. Of the 447 electors, Mr. McKinley received 271 and Mr. Bryan 176, giving a Republican majority of 95. Women voted in Colorado, Utah and Wyoming, nearly doubling the aggregate vote in those states. A change of forty-eight electoral votes properly distributed might have elected Mr. Bryan. It was not a party victory, but a victory over a monopoly of silver mine owners.

The second session of the fifty-fourth Congress began on Monday, December 7, and President Cleveland's final Annual Message was read in both Houses of Congress the same day. It discussed the Cuban question, and declared the proposal to accord the insurgents belligerent rights was untimely and impracticable. The Government had intimated to Spain that if she would grant autonomy to Cuba the United States would endeavour to find a guarantee. The Venezuela boundary treaty was briefly referred to as just and fair, and the negotiations

with Great Britain for a general arbitration treaty were stated to be far advanced, and promised to reach a successful consummation at an early date. The Message closed with recommendations for financial reform.

An independent report to the President by the Secretary of State, giving an account of the foreign relations of the United States, was submitted as an appendix to the Message.

In this report Mr. Olney explained his reasons for being adverse to the recognition of belligerent rights on the part of the Cuban insurgents. "So far as our information goes, not only is there no effective local government by the insurgents in the territory they overrun, but there is not even a tangible pretext to establish an administration anywhere. The machinery for exercising the legitimate rights and powers of sovereignty and the corresponding obligations which a *de facto* sovereignty entails are conspicuously lacking."

The Secretary of State expressed regret that the British Government refused its concurrence in the proposal for an international commission for the protection of seals, and recited the findings of experts that the herd was threatened with destruction unless changes were speedily made in the award regulations. He hoped that the experts' report would induce Great Britain to agree to these changes.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury accompanied the Message. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1896, the receipts of the Government from all sources reached \$409,475,408. During the same period the expenditure was \$434,678,654. Of the receipts \$160,021,751 were derived from the customs and \$146,830,615 from internal revenue. The value of imported dutiable merchandise during the last fiscal year was \$369,757,470; the value of free goods imported was \$409,967,470—being an increase of \$6,523,675 in the value of dutiable goods and of \$41,231,034 in the value of free goods over the preceding year. The exports of foreign and domestic merchandise amounted to \$882,606,938, being an increase over the preceding year of \$75,068,773. The Secretary urged the withdrawal of United States and Treasury notes. The entire volume of these notes amounted to \$468,358,296. They have once been redeemed in gold, and more than \$98,500,000 have been twice redeemed. He recommended more economy in appropriations and expenses.

President Cleveland's Cabinet was unchanged in December, with the exception of Mr. Hoke Smith, Secretary of the Interior, who resigned his portfolio in August. He was the only member of the Cabinet who announced his intention to support Mr. Bryan for the Presidency. His place was taken by Mr. David R. Francis, formerly Governor of Missouri.

At the close of the year the Senate debated the silver and tariff questions. The Dingley Tariff Bill, to supply deficiency in revenue, was virtually changed into a free silver measure by

the Senate Committee on Finance, and was therefore opposed by the gold-standard senators. The bill was declared to be dead by Senator Sherman, and the Republicans were expecting an extra session after the incoming of the new President to arrange a new tariff bill.

In December the general arbitration treaty between Great Britain and the United States had not been signed. The year was not a prosperous one in the United States. Business was unhinged by the uncertainties and excitements of the quadrennial presidential election, and by the political problems of the currency and the tariff involved in it.

II. CANADA.

Early in January there was an acute political crisis at Ottawa. A committee of the Cabinet had waited on Sir Mackenzie Bowell with an intimation that in the interests of the Conservative party a change in the leadership was desirable. Sir M. Bowell was not disposed to yield to the wishes of his colleagues and seven of the ministers resigned their portfolios. Lord Aberdeen, the Governor-General, declined to receive Sir M. Bowell's resignation of the Premiership because the speech from the throne had not been considered. Six of the ministers finally agreed to return to the Cabinet to enable the work of session to go on, and Sir Charles Tupper, sen., took the place of his son as Minister of Justice.

In a debate in February in the House of Commons at Ottawa, all the speakers were in accord on the subject of loyalty to the mother country. No unfriendly word was spoken of the United States, however, although Mr. McNeill said that a feeling seemed to prevail in the states that Canada was only watching her opportunity to become part of the republic. "We want the people of the world," he said, "to know that, come what may, in whatever part of the empire they reside, the British people are one people, animated by one spirit, and determined to stand as one man in defence of their common rights and in the maintenance of their common interests."

Mr. Laurier, leader of the Opposition, heartily endorsed Mr. McNeill's resolution and said: "When England should have to repel her foes, I am quite sure that British subjects all over the world would be only too glad to give to her what help they could—British subjects all over the world, not only British subjects of her own blood, but British subjects who are not of her own blood, but who have received from her the inestimable blessing of freedom."

The resolution was adopted unanimously amid prolonged cheering. Mr. Foster delivered his annual budget speech on January 31. He expected a revenue of \$37,000,000 and an expenditure about equal to it. The annual drill and equipment of the militia which the Government felt to be essential to the

interests of the country would cost about \$1,500,000, otherwise there would have been a substantial surplus.

The Canadian House of Commons held the longest sitting on record in April, which lasted for 129 hours. The Liberal leaders had expressed willingness to further the progress of the Manitoba Schools Remedial Bill in committee, but about a dozen of their followers persistently obstructed the measure. They set the House at defiance, and on April 16 Sir C. Tupper announced that the measure would be laid aside to enable the House to pass the necessary appropriations. Parliament was dissolved April 30. Sir M. Bowell resigned the Premiership on the 27th, and Lord Aberdeen asked Sir C. Tupper, sen., to form a Ministry. In a brief speech from the throne he expressed regret at the non-settlement of the schools question.

A difference of opinion arose between Lord Aberdeen and his late advisers, previous to his acceptance of their resignations, regarding the filling up of certain vacancies in the public service. A compromise was reached by which a number of minor appointments were approved, but the Governor-General left four senatorships and one judgeship for the incoming Government to fill up.

Mr. Laurier opened the campaign of the Opposition for the Liberals in a speech at Montreal by declaring for a modification of the tariff to relieve the taxpayers gradually, so as not to injure manufacturing interests. He declared his desire to settle the Manitoba question by a policy of conciliation. Sir Charles Tupper issued a manifesto appealing for support in maintaining a protective tariff as essential. He urged the adoption of preferential tariff arrangements with Great Britain and with sister colonies, and declared that it was the patriotic duty of the Government to adhere to their policy on the Manitoba schools question.

At the end of June the returns of the elections showed that the Liberals had gained a decisive victory, and for the second time in the history of the Dominion a Liberal Government came into power. The greatest disasters of the Conservative party were in Quebec, where Mr. Laurier's party secured fifty out of sixty-five seats.

Mr. Laurier, a Canadian of French origin and the first French Canadian to hold that position, came into office with the cordial respect even of his political opponents. His private record was stainless and his personal character attractive. The new Cabinet was a very strong one, and included several ex-Premiers. The new Parliament was opened in August. Lord Aberdeen said that no measures would be submitted for the session except those for supply. The tariff question would be inquired into during the recess, and immediate steps would be taken to settle the Manitoban difficulty. In a House of 210 members the Liberals had a majority of 34 in September, but a number of returns were being contested.

The Dominion Cabinet on June 29 decided to ask the Imperial Government to concur in awarding the contract for the proposed 20-knot Atlantic steamship service to the Allan Line, whose tender was the lowest and was the only one that complied with the specifications. Their offer was a weekly service for a subsidy of 220,000*l.* sterling per annum, towards which it was hoped that the Imperial Government would contribute 75,000*l.*

Over thirty cities and towns in Ontario adopted the provincial curfew law. The corporation of Ottawa decided to apply it to that city. Children under fourteen, unaccompanied by parents or guardians, must not be in the streets after 9 P.M.

The basis of settlement of the Manitoba schools question was arranged in November. These were the terms of the compromise: Religious teaching might be conducted for half an hour daily by any Christian clergyman or person authorised by him if a majority of the school trustees so decided, or if it was asked for by the parents of ten children attending the school in a rural district and twenty-five children attending the school in a city, town, or village. If the trustees so specified or the parents so requested, such religious teaching might be restricted to certain days in the week. The provision respecting the employment of Catholic or non-Catholic teachers applied equitably, so that in cities and towns forty children and in villages and rural districts twenty-five children might be taught as the parents desired. Where there was only one room in the school the Catholic children were to be taught religion on half the teaching days and the Protestants on the other half. There was to be no separation of pupils by religious denominations during the hours of secular school work. No pupils were to be permitted to be present at any religious teaching unless the parents desired it. Where ten pupils spoke French or any language other than English as their native language the teaching of such pupils was to be conducted in such native language and English on the bilingual system.

The Roman Catholic hierarchy were opposed to this basis of settlement. Archbishop Langevin declared that the French, whose rights were guaranteed by the Constitution, were now put on the same footing as new-comers from Iceland or Russia. Their poverty would never force them to accept a shameful compromise. "We wish," he said, "in the first place, the control of our schools; secondly, Catholic school districts everywhere; thirdly, Catholic histories and reading-books; fourthly, Catholic inspectors; fifthly, competent Catholic teachers instructed by us; sixthly, our taxes and exemption from taxes for other schools." The archbishop said that fifty-one Catholic schools had been closed under the provincial law, but all would be open soon as parochial schools. In accordance with this declaration, the archbishop ordered the opening of ten separate schools, to be maintained at the expense of the Church.

The revenue of the Dominion for the year ending June 30 was \$36,617,485 and the ordinary expenditure \$36,980,966. The net debt on June 30 was \$258,528,304.

III. NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Legislature met July 11, and the Governor in his opening address said that retrenchment was being strictly carried out, and that the credit of the colony was restored. The revenue for the year was \$1,500,000, and the expenditure \$1,300,000. The Premier, Sir W. Whiteway, was defeated, July 13, by his own party on a motion to reduce the expenses of the Assembly for the session from \$35,000 to \$20,000.

Rich mineral deposits were found in the island, which caused much excitement. An extensive gold-bearing quartz reef was discovered in September at Cape Broyle, south of St. John's, and in November an immense deposit of silver and lead ore was found at Lawn, on Placentia Bay. There were also discoveries of coal and petroleum on the coast.

The union with Canada was quite given up, and the question was not likely to be again discussed for at least five years.

IV. MEXICO.

General Porfirio Diaz, the President of the Mexican Republic, reported to Congress in September that the improvement, begun at the end of 1894, in the Government revenues was fully maintained. During the financial year 1895-6 the import duties were in excess of \$3,500,000 over the income from that source in the preceding year. The Government hoped soon to be able to abolish some of the taxes.

The budget statement presented to Congress by the Finance Minister in December showed that during the last fiscal year the receipts amounted to \$50,521,470, and the expenditure to \$45,070,123, leaving a balance of over \$5,000,000. The estimated expenditure for 1897-8 was \$49,942,000, and the revenue \$49,962,000.

Under a new patent law in Mexico the proprietor of a patent is obliged, in order to keep it in force, to pay to the Treasury at the end of the first five years \$50, at the end of ten years \$75, and at the end of fifteen years \$100.

General Diaz was inaugurated December 1 for his fourth quadrennial term as President of Mexico.

V. CENTRAL AMERICA.

British Honduras.—Gold was found near Stann Creek, the third largest town in the colony, on the sea coast. Near by are some old Indian ruins. The sample assayed was estimated to yield \$20 to the ton. On September 30 a proclamation

was issued by the Government prohibiting for twelve months the export or coastwise carriage of arms and ammunition without a licence. Considerable insecurity and uneasiness was felt at Belize in November on account of the low price of log-wood. The price had fallen from \$27, gold, to \$12 per ton.

Costa Rica.—The Republic denounced Articles V., VI. and VII. of the treaty with Great Britain, and the articles would cease accordingly, November 26, 1897. Costa Rica also in December signified its intention of cancelling the commercial shipping and consular treaty of 1875 between the Republic and Germany. The long-standing difference with the United States of Colombia respecting a boundary between the countries was to be referred to the President of the French Republic for settlement.

Honduras.—The entire Republic of Honduras was placed under martial law in March, on account of the revolt in the neighbouring state of Nicaragua.

Salvador.—General Carlos Ezeta, ex-President of Salvador, and his brother General Antonio Ezeta, ex-Vice-President, were convicted of treason by court-martial in August, and sentenced to death. They were accused of overthrowing the Government in 1890, and of assassinating President Menendez. The brothers Ezeta were outlaws and fugitives from the country.

Nicaragua.—A revolt in the North-western Department broke out in February. President Zelaya declared himself dictator, and in March had captured the town of Mora, and Metapa, the rebel fortress, having killed and wounded a thousand of the rebels. Two thousand troops were sent from Honduras to assist Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan Government agreed to a convention for the settlement of British claims on account of losses which had been incurred in the Mosquito Territory, but excluding citizens of any American state from holding the position of umpire.

On May 2 a force of 100 United States and British Marines were landed from their war-ships in response to an appeal for help from the commandant of the custom house, and occupied Corinto. They protected the property of foreigners in the custom house for two days, when the goods worth \$1,000,000 were handed over to Nicaragua.

Meanwhile General Metuta, with eighty Honduras soldiers, arrived and demanded the surrender of the custom house, which was refused until a request to that effect was received from President Zelaya. General Metuta threatened to occupy Corinto without awaiting President Zelaya's orders, although the latter was only thirty miles distant. Thereupon the British and American commanders, who were disgusted by these proceedings, ordered their Marines to be drawn up and signalled the U.S. cruiser *Alert* to steam opposite the custom house, while the British cruiser *Comus* cleared for action. These preparations caused General Metuta to apologise and

retire. President Zelaya telegraphed his approval and thanks to the American Legation at Managua, and invited the naval commanders to visit Managua and enjoy his hospitality.

Panama Canal.—More activity was apparent in this work than had been shown for a long period. The new Panama Canal Company at the close of the year were employing over 3,600 navvies. About 600 men had arrived from Sierra Leone by permission of the English Government, and 300 from Trinidad. The work of deepening the channel on the Pacific side had been resumed. The whole number of labourers employed on the different sections, including Panama, Colon, and La Boca, was 4,362. About 20,000,000*l.* sterling would be required to complete the canal. The receipts of the Panama Railway had increased from \$266,000 to \$396,000.

VI. WEST INDIES.

Cuba.—Spain continued the struggle to regain control of the island and to put down the rebellion. General Martinez Campos was succeeded by General Weyler, with General S. Valdes second in command, and the new Captain-General arrived in Havana in February. In January the rebel leader Gomez was threatening Havana with his mounted troops. In February the Spaniards claimed victories near Candelaria, in Pinar-del-Rio, and in Matanzas. General Weyler ordered all prisoners to be dealt with summarily, but none were to be executed without his knowledge and sanction. Guerrilla warfare continued in March and April, and in one engagement the rebel leader Maceo surrounded and nearly captured a strong division of the Spanish forces.

The economic condition of the country was becoming rapidly worse. The failure of the sugar crop had ruined many, imports had declined about one half, and the railway lines had suffered immense damage. In May a decree was issued prohibiting the export of leaf tobacco from Pinar-del-Rio and Havana, except to Spain. Although the Spanish forces numbered 175,000 men, against 40,000 badly armed rebels, they were quite unable to protect life and property, and villages, plantation buildings, and cane fields continued to be burnt within a few miles of Havana. Many official victories were claimed by the Spanish generals, but the rebels were not apparently weakened thereby. In June the rebels held the provinces of Santa Clara, Puerto Principe, and Santiago, and issued orders that no sugar should be cultivated next year. Nine-tenths of the Cuban people depended on the sugar industry for a livelihood, and, apart from the rebellion, that industry was ruined by the beet-root sugar competition of other countries. Tobacco growing was also ruined for the time being. Filibustering expeditions one after another from the United States strengthened and encouraged the rebels with large

supplies of war material and reinforcements. General Weyler at last in November determined to strike a blow, and took personal command of the Spanish forces in Pinar-del-Rio, but he met with no better success than the other generals. He found the rebels scattered in small groups throughout the province, and they showed no inclination for a pitched battle. The reported death of the rebel general, Antonio Maceo, December 4, while leading an attack on a small Spanish force commanded by Major Cirujeda, caused great rejoicing in Spain. Maceo was killed, it was said, while carrying out a carefully concerted plan of attacking Havana itself during the absence of General Weyler in the hills of the Pinar-del-Rio district. Yet the war was not over, although the Commander-in-Chief, General Weyler, returned to Havana, and the whole army celebrated with feasting what they called the heroic victory of Major Cirujeda.

Hayti.—General Theresias Simon Sam was elected President of Hayti in succession to the late General Hippolyte.

Jamaica.—In this colony the depression in the sugar industry was not so severely felt as in other islands. The trade in bananas and other tropical fruits, in cacao, coffee, cocoanuts, etc., was increasing. Yet sugar still was the principal article of export, and formed over 60 per cent. of the whole. Sir Henry Blake, the Governor, visited England in July.

Trinidad.—It was proposed to hold a centenary exhibition in 1897 on February 17 in commemoration of the capture of the island. The Colonial Government voted 3,500*l.* to defray the expenses.

The Queen appointed in December General Sir Henry Wylie Norman (chairman), Sir Edward Grey, M.P., and Sir David Barbour, to inquire into the conditions and prospects of the West Indian sugar-growing islands, and Mr. Sydney Olivier to be their secretary. Mr. Daniel Morris, assistant director of Kew Gardens, would accompany the commission as expert adviser in botanical and agricultural questions.

The following were the official terms of reference: "To inquire into the condition and prospects of the colonies of Jamaica, British Guiana, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, and Leeward Islands, and of the sugar industry in those colonies, and of the labouring classes, and to report whether the sugar industry appears to be in danger of extinction in such colonies, or any of them, and what is the amount of capital at present invested in the industry; whether the causes of depression are temporary or permanent; whether depression is due wholly or in part to mismanagement, imperfect processes, absentee ownership, or any other causes independently of competition of sugar produced under the bounty system, and whether the removal of such causes would be sufficient remedy for the depression;

whether in the event of the abandonment of sugar cultivation there are other industries which could be prosecuted with success, and which would find adequate employment for the population, and, if such industries can be indicated, whether they could be established in time to meet any crisis that may be now impending, and what would be the probable result of complete failure of the sugar industry on the condition of the labouring classes both West Indian and East Indian, and on the revenue of the colonies, and whether any deficiency of revenue caused by the extinction of the sugar industry could be met by economies in the administration without imperial aid."

VII. SOUTH AMERICA.

Argentine Republic.—A proposal to submit to arbitration the boundary dispute between the Argentine Republic and Chili was favourably considered. Both countries were willing to accept Queen Victoria as arbitrator, and in July her Majesty agreed to act in that capacity. All questions, therefore, which were not agreed upon between the two Governments were to be submitted to the Queen for arbitration.

President Uriburu opened the regular session of Congress in May. The Presidential Message referred to the increasing progress of the country. During 1895 exports exceeded imports by \$25,000,000. The Treasury receipts showed an improvement, and the service of the debt had been regulated. The Government already possessed sufficient funds in Europe to pay off all contracts for armaments. The Message recommended the unification of the external, national and provincial debts, in order to consolidate the credit of the country; although the provincial debts were not binding upon the nation.

Much of the country was overrun with locusts in September, and they were doing great damage to the crops.

The Minister of the Interior proposed to amalgamate all the railways in the Argentine Republic, and form them into a monopoly for the benefit of the state.

The Chamber passed the first reading of the budget on December 19, including the proposal for the resumption of the integral service of the debt.

Brazil.—President Prudente de Moraes at the opening of the Brazilian Congress, May 14, announced that the Mapa trouble on the borders of French Guiana would be settled by arbitration. He hoped also that the Trinidad question would be settled amicably. The President advocated a further increase of the Navy as soon as the finances would permit, and recommended a revision of the tariff to increase the revenue together with the withdrawal of paper money. The deficit of last year amounted to nearly 35,000,000 milreas.

The friendly services of Portugal were offered in the settle-

ment of the question as to the ownership of the rocky islet of Trinidad off the Brazilian coast, and Great Britain conceded in August the rights of Brazil to the island.

Conflicts took place, August 22, at San Paulo between Brazilians and Italians, and disturbances continued in Rio de Janeiro. The trouble was caused by students in great part, who burned an Italian flag. Then, to make matters worse, the Italian Consul headed a group of excited Italians who paraded the streets shouting "Hurrah for Italy" and "Death to Brazil." Order was restored in a few days, but at Bahia the escutcheon over the Italian consulate was torn down. The Government promised not to permit any attack on Italians to go unpunished.

The Prussian rescript dated November 3, 1859, forbidding emigration to the southern provinces of Rio Grande do Sol, Santa Catharina and Parana was withdrawn by Germany in August. About 400 emigrants from Canada, mostly of French extraction, arrived in October at San Paulo. They had been promised many favours, and much dissatisfaction existed among them because no provision was made before their arrival for their reception. The Ottawa Government asked the British Consul at San Paulo to send back, at the expense of Canada, those Canadians in indigent circumstances who were anxious to return to their homes.

Financial and commercial affairs were in a bad state in October. The Chamber of Deputies in November authorised the collection of 40 per cent. of the import duties in gold, and allowed a corresponding reduction in rates. At the end of the month the situation had slightly improved, on account of the announcement of the Government that economies would be enforced in all departments.

The Vice-President, who assumed the duties of President owing to the illness of Dr. de Moraes, proposed to take over the bank issues, to lease the Government railways, to collect the import duties on gold, and after leasing the railways to redeem the paper money with the annual budget surpluses. In December the Chamber had authorised the Government to assume the responsibility of the bank notes in circulation and to lease the railways.

Chili.—It was stated in the President's Message at the opening of Congress at Santiago, June 1, that the revenue for 1895 and the surplus from 1894 amounted to \$101,000,000. The expenditure was \$93,000,000. Estimated expenditure for 1896 was \$86,000,000, and the estimated surplus \$3,000,000.

The Presidential election held in July resulted in the choice of Señor Errazuriz, the candidate of the Conservatives and Moderate Liberals, over Señor Reyes, Liberal. The winning candidate had a very small majority of the electors—only two votes, as it was proclaimed in September. He was installed on September 18.

The Chamber passed a vote of censure upon the Government in November, whereupon the Cabinet resigned, and a new Cabinet was formed consisting entirely of Liberal supporters of the President.

The commercial situation was very bad indeed in November, and there was much distress throughout the country; but at the very close of the year there was some improvement.

Colombia.—There was a dispute in December between the United States of Colombia and Nicaragua concerning the ownership of the Great and Little Corn Islands, lying off the Mosquito coast.

British Guiana.—Much anxiety was felt in the colony on account of the great depression in the sugar market. The inhabitants of Georgetown resolved, at a large public meeting held in November, to petition the Imperial Government to grant the sugar industry temporary assistance till an arrangement could be made with the beet-sugar producing countries of Europe for the abolition of the bounty system. In Demerara there were troubles with the coolies, who refused to work at the reduced wages that the planters could only offer; and, in suppressing the riot, the police killed three coolies and wounded sixty. There is more capital invested and more labour employed in British Guiana in the production of cane sugar than in any other part of the empire.

Many plantations are heavily mortgaged. There are employed on the plantations about 55,000 coolie labourers, all entitled to return passages to India after ten years' residence. Under this head the colony is liable to the amount of 1,000,000*l.* sterling. The total value of exported sugar was 1,046,160*l.*, and of rum and molasses 137,000*l.* The exports of gold were about 445,000*l.* in value. The gold industry was suffering as a result of the boundary dispute.

Peru.—A rebellion broke out in June under the leadership of Seminario, at Yquitos, who with his forces proposed to form a federation with Brazil. Peru declared Yquitos closed, and an expedition was prepared to oppose the rebels by sea and land. Seminario fled in July, leaving the treasury empty; and a Peruvian rebellion requires money. In July a conspiracy in favour of General Caceres, the late President, was discovered at Lima, and the ringleaders—chiefly military officers—were arrested. General Pierola suppressed the discontent without resorting to harsh measures.

The Cabinet resigned owing to a vote of censure passed upon it by Congress in August, and a new Ministry was formed with Señor Manuel Olacchea as Premier.

The negotiations with Chili concerning the provinces of Arica and Tacna made no progress. Chili insisted on obtaining substantial guarantees for the immediate payment of the indemnity (\$10,000,000), stipulated in the treaty of 1883, in case the provinces should be restored to Peru by the plebiscite, but

until the financial arrangements were concluded Chili refused to discuss the manner of holding the plebiscite. As Peru would be unable to raise the money, Chili was preparing to hand over the two provinces to Bolivia. Peru having lost Tarapaca through the defence of Bolivia, Bolivia was about to gain Tacna and Arica from her ruined ally by siding with her former enemy, thus giving a lively example of the ingratitude of South American Republics.

Uruguay.—In May the Chamber approved of bills for the extension of railways and for the foundation of a state bank. Elections were held November 29, and generally passed off quietly.

The customary revolution was brewing, and about that time armed bands from Brazil crossed the frontier into the northern and eastern provinces of Uruguay. The Government announced (Dec. 5) that the "bandit Saraiba" had been completely defeated, and that the revolution was "definitely terminated."

Tenders for constructing a new port at Monte Video, according to plans prepared by a French engineer, were to be presented January 30, 1897.

Venezuela.—An attempt was made (Feb. 2) to assassinate President Crespo at the opening of a national bull ring. A dozen men, armed with revolvers, took their place among the spectators. One of them suddenly sprang over the seats and rushed to the President's box. The sentry on guard at the entrance cut him down, and saved the President's life.

The settlement of the boundary question with British Guiana was discussed throughout the year. The United States Commission ransacked the world to obtain all possible light on the ownership of the disputed territory. The British and the Venezuelan Governments issued elaborate and exhaustive statements of their respective cases. An incident occurred (June 15) which for a time threatened to hinder the progress of the negotiations. Mr. Harrison, a British official engaged in the survey of the road from Barama to the Cuyuni River, was arrested by Venezuelans and carried to the Venezuelan station El Dorado, opposite Urnan. No violence was done on either side, but as Mr. Harrison was surveying well within the Schomburgk line the British Ambassador at Washington, Sir J. Pauncefoot, requested the friendly intervention of the United States for his release. However it had already been ordered. It was pointed out that although Mr. Harrison and his party were on the left bank of the Cuyuni they were on the left of the lower part of that stream which runs down to the Essequibo through British territory. It was only the upper portion of the Cuyuni above the Acarabisci Creek which had been accepted provisionally by both sides as a temporary boundary.

President Crespo and his Government accepted the agree-

ment for a treaty of arbitration, arranged by Lord Salisbury and Mr. Olney, the United States Secretary of State, in December. By its terms the prescriptive rights to settled districts, held for fifty years, were to be allowed to British Guiana and Venezuela as they might be to individuals in ordinary civil law. President Cleveland's boundary commission, while continuing its deliberations and the arrangement of maps, reports and documents, did not propose to formulate any decision for the time being on matters subject to its examination. An extra session of the Venezuelan Congress was to be summoned for its sanction, and the signing of the actual treaty by the representatives of the two Governments was expected to follow.

CHAPTER VIII.

AUSTRALASIA.

THE great question of confederation, which of late years had fallen into the background, once more came into prominence during the year 1896. Occupied with their own domestic concerns, engrossed by the paramount necessity of maintaining each its own existence amidst the confused and ever-varying conditions of colonial politics and under the almost universal depression caused by their late financial troubles, the Governments have had very little time to bestow on a matter of such far-off interest, in which no direct political advantage seemed to be involved, as the confederation of the states of Australasia. The duties and obligations of citizenship, in any larger sense than is understood in a party organisation or trade union, are with difficulty brought home to the ordinary colonist. To many among those who take the most active part in politics the idea of federation is regarded with but scant favour if not with positive suspicion. The ruling class, which is the class which lives on wages, is but imperfectly convinced of the advantages of political union. In the process of growth there has been generated rather a centrifugal than centripetal tendency among the colonies. Their differences in character have been accentuated, and the variations, even of opinion and of sentiment, have become more strongly marked. Conflicting laws and rival systems of trading have contributed to multiply the points of divergence and to harden the natural feelings of jealousy, engendered by separate institutions, which make rather for disintegration than for confederation.

A better spirit, however, is distinctly discernible in the progress which was made in 1896 towards a federal scheme. The work, which had been practically suspended since 1891, was resumed this year in a shape which seemed to point to a definite issue. The representatives of the colonies met several times during the year to discuss questions of general intercolonial

interest, and the practice of conference thus acquired may fairly be regarded as of good promise in regard to the leading question of federation. New South Wales, which since the fall of Sir Henry Parkes had been the greatest laggard in the cause, woke up to an unexpected energy in the beginning of the year—Mr. Reid, the Prime Minister, pleading in excuse for his late inactivity the apathy of Queensland. Without Queensland Mr. Reid refused to move. As the youngest colony, Western Australia chose at first to join her lot to Queensland; nothing could be done for some months in the direction of federation. Ultimately, however, the Legislatures of all the five colonies passed bills enabling their Premiers to join in a convention for devising a federal scheme. Even Queensland was induced so far to accede to the national movement as to pass a bill through the Lower House on terms which were nearly identical with those which had been adopted by the other colonies. A difficulty which could not be said to be wholly unexpected, and the existence of which seemed to be taken as indicative of the coldness of the Government towards the project, arose in the progress of the bill through Parliament. The Queensland Upper House, basing its claim on the Constitution Act which gave it equal powers with the Lower, insisted on reserving to itself an equal share in the election of members to the Federal Parliament. The efforts made by the Government to overcome this obstacle, if earnest, were not successful, and so Queensland was prevented from joining the Australasian concert on the question of federation. New South Wales, however, which began by protesting that she could not join without Queensland, was induced to waive her scruples, and not only agreed to meet the other colonies in the Federal Convention, but assumed a foremost place in urging the resumption of the work of confederation. And Western Australia also finally decided to unite with her elder sisters in promoting the scheme of unity. The close of the year 1896, therefore, saw all the colonies, save Queensland, resolved to meet in a federal conference—a place being reserved for Queensland should she ultimately consent to come in, as no doubt she will, rather than be left out of the union.

In the meantime various other conferences on matters of general Australasian interest were held this year, mostly inspired by the intelligence of dangers threatening the empire in Europe. The military commandants of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia met in Sydney on February 1, under the presidency of General Hutton, the local commandant, to discuss measures for the common defence. It was resolved that the British military rifle, with some modifications, should be recommended for general adoption by the colonial forces. A draft of a scheme of federal defence was agreed to, and all military arrangements were completed in anticipation of federal political action.

The colonial Premiers met at Sydney on March 4 to give effect to what their commandants had done. A federal scheme of defence was decided upon, of which the leading features were the enrolment of a federal armed force, to consist of not less than 5,000 men in time of peace and of 12,000 men in time of war. It was decided also that there should be uniformity in arms and in equipment.

The conference of Premiers discussed other questions of less obvious imperial or colonial concern. The British treaty with Japan was considered from a purely Australasian point of view, and met with a somewhat unsympathetic reception. It was decided that advantage should not be taken of Article 19 of the Japanese Treaty, which provided for greater freedom of intercourse between the two nations, and the opinion was unanimously expressed, to which most of the Governments have since given effect, that the Japanese were to be put in the category of those Asiatics whose immigration, on the grounds of their dark complexion and capacity to work at low wages, was undesirable.

The strained political relations of the mother country with Germany and with the United States in the beginning of the year were the occasion of a spontaneous outburst of loyalty throughout Australasia. Meetings were held in all the capitals and principal cities to express sympathy with the mother country, and enthusiastic resolutions were passed, signifying the attachment of the colonies to the empire and a resolution to share in its perils. One of the most remarkable of these demonstrations was that which was held in Sydney on January 20, at the date when news had arrived of the troubles of England in connection with the Transvaal and Venezuela, when an assembly of Irishmen, under the presidency of Cardinal Moran, passed a unanimous resolution affirming their readiness to shed their blood in defence of the country, denouncing Mr. Redmond for his saying that "England's danger was Ireland's opportunity," and resolving to organise a corps of Australasian Irishmen in aid of the national scheme of defence. On the same day was held a meeting at Auckland in New Zealand, at which it was decided to form a branch of the Navy League, and resolutions were passed expressive of loyalty to the throne and admiration of the conduct of the Imperial Government.

On some points of imperial policy it is to be noted that Australasian popular opinion, or rather the opinion of the Australasian ministers, was less in accord with imperial sentiment, as expressed by the voice of the imperial Secretary of State. The project of a British Zollverein was coldly received by the Premiers and by the Chambers of Commerce. It seems to have been understood as involving a general system of free trade within the empire, with protection against all foreign countries. To this scheme the local protectionists are naturally opposed, seeing that the customs duties on which

they insist, which are necessary to the maintaining of an artificial rate of wages and the bolstering up of the Labour interest, are almost entirely laid on British manufactures and the produce of the mother country. On the other hand the new-born zeal of some colonial free traders, such as Mr. Reid, the Premier of New South Wales, affected to take alarm at the protection against foreign countries which is presumed to be a cardinal feature of the new imperial scheme of a great British Zollverein. In connection with this subject it is to be noted that the year 1896 marked the beginning of a reaction in Australasia in favour of those principles of free trade which form the basis of British commercial policy. The example set by New South Wales of abolishing all customs duties, even those imposed for revenue purposes, which have a savour of protection, was followed by Queensland, and now Western Australia is to be included among the free trade colonies. Even in Victoria, where the dominant democracy is strongly protectionist, there are signs of an awakening to the dangers to the working class itself involved in the ministerial battle against the freedom of trade—dangers which have been brought to every man's bosom and business through the depression which exists in Victoria as compared with the prosperity of New South Wales.

One of the most practical steps toward political unity is that which was proposed in a memorandum submitted to the Australasian Governments by Sir Philip Fysh, the Treasurer of Tasmania, who advocated the consolidation of the colonial debts. The Australasian colonies, it was pointed out, owe at the present time 200,000,000*l.*, on which they pay, at varying rates, an interest of 8,000,000*l.* Sir Philip Fysh suggested that by consolidating the debts of the various colonies and converting them into bonds bearing a 3 per cent. interest, there would be a saving of 1,000,000*l.* annually. There is no doubt of the feasibility of the scheme if the colonies are agreed, and as little doubt of their common advantage in the agreement. The consolidation, as Sir Philip Fysh urged, would be a step towards confederation. In fact it would have to follow a federal Government if it did not precede it, and there would be good policy in beginning the political unity with the financial identity.

New South Wales.—The year was for the premier colony one of steady advance and prosperity. Under a Government stronger than any to which the colony had lately been accustomed, which was able to hold power without any of those appeals to popular passion or greed which are the familiar devices of the party depending on universal suffrage, New South Wales had been enabled to recover from the consequences of the late general financial collapse. The experiment in free trade, which Mr. Reid had the courage honestly to try, was crowned with results even more favourable than had been

expected, with the effect of dividing the party of Labour, and of breaking up the Opposition. Its success had restored elasticity to the public finances, and confidence in those principles of political economy the violation of which had brought so much evil on the neighbour colonies. Public affairs were administered with wisdom and energy. The legislation of the year was mainly directed to the practical welfare of the people, while it was commendably free from those assaults upon individual interests and experiments upon the law of the constitution which in general form so large a part of the public life of democratic Ministries. Almost for the first time in many years there was no political crisis in New South Wales, while the harmony between the two Houses of Parliament was maintained unbroken. The few attempts to disturb the even course of parliamentary life only seemed to demonstrate the strength of the Reid Ministry, which had given the surest test of its stability by daring to pursue a policy of steady adherence to the recognised principles of law and order in providing for the peace and welfare of the colony.

The death of Sir Henry Parkes on April 27 removed from the scene a very prominent figure on the political stage. For some time before his decease the aged statesman had ceased to exercise any influence on public affairs, his decline in popularity having been caused quite as much by his recent erratic conduct, inspired as was too evident by personal jealousy of those who had ousted him from the leading place he had so long occupied, as by the natural decay of his intellectual powers. For some time before his death Sir Henry Parkes had practically retired from parliamentary life, though loth to quite the scene in which he had been so conspicuous. The sale of his library and private effects, to which he was compelled, according to his own admission, in order to "pay his debts and support his family," attracted painful attention—not for the first time—to the domestic circumstances of the octogenarian statesman. The sympathy which might have been extended to a poverty which was in great part the consequence of a too exclusive devotion to the public service was somewhat spoilt and diverted by Sir Henry Parkes' sudden return to politics in opposition to the Government. In his candidature for the suburban district of Waverley, however, the veteran ex-minister was defeated by Mr. Jessop, the successful opponent of the whilom champion of free trade and Cobden Club gold medallist, being himself a free trader. Sir Henry Parkes did not long survive this humiliation, dying on April 27. He was buried two days after amidst a great popular demonstration—20,000 people following the funeral procession. To complete the irony of the situation, and in illustration of the gratitude of democracies, when the motion for a grant to the family of the deceased statesman—himself a product of the popular vote and a child of Labour—

was brought forward in Parliament by the Prime Minister, it was violently opposed by the Labour party, though finally carried by a majority of 55 to 22 (May 22).

The Parliament was opened on May 12. The Governor, after a graceful reference to the death of Sir Henry Parkes and his services, announced a very full programme of measures for the session. Among these was a bill to remit to the electors at large for their decision any important bill on which, after two years, the Council and the Assembly were not able to agree. A measure for abolishing the life tenure of members of the Legislative Council and making the Upper House elective as well as the Lower, though with a different franchise, and a bill for the extension of the Chinese Restrictive Act to all coloured races, were items in the ministerial programme. The Referendum Bill was carried through the Assembly but failed to pass the Council, being defeated by a majority of 30 to 9. It was finally dropped by the Government on October 14. The measure for the restriction of coloured immigrants, among whom were included Japanese, was passed into law—the Syrians resident in the colony having vainly claimed exemption on the ground that, though Asiatic, they were Christians and but slightly coloured.

The usual motion of censure was made in the course of the session. The occasion was the much agitated and interminable Dean poisoning case—the subject of so much litigation and controversy. The Government was charged with having allowed excessive fees to its political friends in connection with the Dean Commission. After an angry debate the motion was defeated by 85 to 34. As a further sequel to the Dean case, Meagher, the solicitor who had been convicted last year of a conspiracy to defeat the ends of justice, succeeded, on appeal, in having his conviction quashed on the ground that certain evidence, consisting of speeches in Parliament, had been improperly admitted by the judge. Meagher, however, was by the full bench struck off the roll of solicitors.

Mr. Reid, the Treasurer, delivered his budget speech on July 9. He declared that all branches of the revenue showed vitality. The revenue for the year ending June 30 was 9,283,803*l.*, while the expenditure was 8,960,932*l.*—showing a surplus of 333,296*l.* The Government had taken off 750,000*l.* from the customs duties and imposed 500,000*l.* in direct taxation. Settlement on the public lands, Mr. Reid asserted, had been greatly promoted under the new Land Act, under which in nine months 3,360,000 acres had been taken up by more than 2,000 persons. The Government proposed to increase the probate and to alter the stamp duties—expecting to get an additional 120,000*l.* from these two sources. The Treasurer contended that all the avenues of industry and enterprise showed remarkable development, stability, and vitality; and in conclusion quoted figures to show that the colony was rapidly

recovering from depression and was on the high road to prosperity.

In a subsequent speech, delivered in reply to criticisms on his budget, Mr. Reid admitted that his surplus of 333,000*l.* had accrued mainly through changes in the date of closing the financial year. There was a real surplus, however, of 100,000*l.*

A motion by Mr. Macgowan for a plebiscite on the fiscal policy, providing that if protection were asked for by the people it should have a trial for five years, was passed in the Assembly by 48 to 21—the Government, somewhat to the surprise of their free trade friends, voting in its favour.

A deputation of the unemployed waited on the Governor, who refused to receive it on account of the language used in the petition. In this the members of Parliament were characterised as “an addle-pated gang of political pirates.”

A great exhibition, it was announced by Mr. Reid in his budget speech, would be held in Sydney in 1899, at which all the Australasian colonies should be represented, the exhibits being afterwards forwarded to Paris for the exhibition of 1900.

The Parliament was prorogued, after an unusually busy and fruitful session, on November 13.

A terrific heat wave, extending to Victoria, passed over the colony in January, without parallel in history. The temperature in the shade was for several days in excess of 100°. On January 13 it rose to over 108° in Sydney, while in the interior it was over 113° for a week together. Many deaths were caused by the excessive heat.

The colliers' strike, which threatened serious injury to the productive industries of the colony, was ended on July 14, by the acceptance of the masters' terms.

A munificent gift was made to the Sydney University by Mr. P. N. Russell, a former resident in the colony, of 50,000*l.* for the foundation and endowment of a college of engineering.

The conference of Australasian Premiers, which met in Sydney, concluded its labours on March 5. A series of resolutions was adopted, of which the first declared that “federation was essential to any complete scheme of federal defence,” and others provided for an alteration of the local laws so as to allow of the troops being employed in any part of Australia or Tasmania for purposes of defence against foreign aggression. Resolutions were also passed approving of the general support of coast lighthouses and of federal quarantine stations at Albany, Thursday Island and Adelaide, with federal officers and uniform regulations. The conference also proceeded to declare that its deliberations on these matters “had made the urgent necessity of the federation of the colonies more than ever apparent,” and congratulated the colonies upon the simultaneous passage of the Federal Enabling Bills by the various colonial Legislatures. With regard to the imperial treaty with Japan, the conference resolved that it was “not

expedient for the Australian colonies to take advantage of Article 19, which provides that the colonies may, if they desire, become parties to the treaty."

Victoria.—The year's story has not been eventful in Victoria. The signs of recovery from financial depression were slow to appear. The population showed, by the published returns, a small decline, ascribed to the superior attractions of the new gold discoveries in Western Australia, but probably due as much to the absence of confidence in the home resources, and the stagnation in all branches of industry through the wild and vacillating policy of the Government, which seemed to be bent rather on fantastic changes in the legislative machinery than on practical measures for the restoration of the national credit and the revival of trade and industry.

The Parliament met after the Christmas adjournment on January 19. The chief business before the Legislative Assembly was the Government Railway Bill, which occupied many sittings. Ministers had a difficulty in bringing the House to their own opinion in regard to some of the leading provisions of that measure. The main object of the bill was to secure a competent and independent commissioner of railways, who should be strong enough to ensure the colony against the notorious abuses which had been detected in the railway management—abuses which had been proved to be a main cause of the failure of the railways to provide the expected amount of profit in their working. The feeling of the majority of the House ran in the direction of the policy which had been already found to be so fatal—the policy which favoured the employees of the State rather than the public. The Government was several times defeated in the clauses of the Railway Bill, especially in regard to the choice of the commissioner and his remuneration. The Committee of the House decided against the Government that the selection of the railway commissioner should be limited to persons residing in the colony. This decision was with difficulty reversed at a subsequent sitting by a majority of one. Upon the proposal to increase the salary of the commissioner to 3,500*l.* the Government was defeated by a large majority. Eventually the Railway Bill was passed by the two Houses in nearly the shape it was presented—Mr. Matheson, superintendent of railways in Queensland, being appointed commissioner at the salary of 3,500*l.*

The Parliament met again for the session on June 23. Lord Brassey, the Governor, in his opening speech, dwelt on the signs of improvement in trade and industry. The exports had increased by 500,000*l.* in value. Bills were promised for the restriction of "undesirable immigrants," the regulation of factories, and the amendment of the Constitution. Reference was made, in a loyal spirit, to "recent events which threatened the empire with war."

The Factories Bill, after a difference between the two

Houses, was ultimately passed by the Legislative Council on July 14.

Mr. Turner, Premier and Treasurer, delivered his budget speech on July 26. The revenue for the year ending June 30 was 6,461,142*l.*, the expenditure was 6,833,647*l.*, leaving a deficiency of 362,505*l.* The estimated revenue for the year following showed a surplus of 170,851*l.* But the redemption of the Treasury bonds to the extent of 250,000*l.* would leave a net deficiency of 79,149*l.* The Treasurer announced that there would be no new taxes and no fresh loans in London. A sum of 375,000*l.*, however, would be raised locally for "reproductive works."

A new Constitution, including the principle of one man one vote, female suffrage, and the abolition of the electoral rolls, was passed by the Legislative Assembly on October 9.

The proposal for a state bank, which was among the financial measures of the Government, was withdrawn on November 1, but the scheme of a national *crédit foncier* was retained.

A bill for reducing the numbers of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly was introduced into the Lower House on December 7. The Referendum Bill was read for the second time by 47 votes to 23.

The Legislative Council threw out the Constitution Bill on the ground that it was not properly before the House. No certificates had been given that the bill had passed by an absolute majority of the Assembly, as required by section 60 of the Constitution Act. No further progress was made with the bill during the session.

In the Legislative Council a motion was unanimously carried asserting the desirability of holding a Colonial Conference in London.

The royal commission appointed to inquire into the Irrigation Trusts, in its report, severely condemned the minister and the department responsible for their failure. Loans had been recklessly squandered. The minister had made advances to private trusts, under political pressure, contrary to the advice of the law officers and the engineer department.

The report of the liquidators in the estate of Chaffey Brothers, of Mildura and Renmark Irrigation Settlements, represented that 44,770*l.* included the whole of the cash received from the public on account of shares, though the balance-sheet showed "paid-up capital" to be 474,770*l.* The difference consisted of the vendors' shares. There had been extraordinary waste and recklessness revealed in the accounts. An appeal was made to the Governments of Victoria and South Australia for support to the settlers. The Melbourne *Argus* laid the blame on Mr. Denkin, the minister in charge, and his "downright incapacity."

Parliament was prorogued on December 24.

At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, held in Melbourne on June 22, it was resolved to place on record the

Chamber's high appreciation of the patriotic efforts of Mr. Chamberlain to develop the natural resources of the empire. The Chamber at the same time looked coldly on the project of an Imperial Zollverein.

The inquiry into the administration of justice by unpaid magistrates in the country revealed some gross abuses. In a report issued March 29, the commissioners found that several of the magistrates had been guilty of flagrant acts of dishonesty and corruption. Some of the justices were accustomed to migrate from bench to bench in order to sit on cases in which they were interested. Some were owners of disorderly houses, or in collusion with brothel-keepers. As a consequence of this report, three justices of the peace, Messrs. Rapiport, Bird and Baxter, were struck off the roll.

The Volunteers of Victoria offered to go to Matabeleland to the number of 100, provided the Government paid the expenses of the voyage.

In consequence of the failure of the local crop, 19,000 bushels of wheat were imported into Melbourne from Canada, the first importation of the kind for many years.

Mr. Blake, member of the British House of Commons, delivered a lecture on Home Rule in Melbourne on January 30.

Mr. Purves, a local barrister and candidate for the Federal Convention, made a speech averring that England had done nothing for the colonies and that separation from her was inevitable. Sir George Turner, himself a native of Victoria, vigorously repudiated this sentiment on behalf of the natives.

A healthy feature of the financial position was indicated by the reports of the local banks. The amount of local deposits had increased, while the advances had diminished. Two of the banks—the Bank of Victoria and the National—released 1,000,000*l.* of outside deposits, for which there was no profitable employment.

Lord Brassey was the subject of some criticism for having given a sympathetic reception to a deputation of the unemployed, after the Premier had refused to receive it—promising the delegates to use his influence with his ministers to procure them food and shelter.

The population of Melbourne was shown to have declined in two years by 32,250. It was reckoned at the end of 1895 to be 438,955.

The imports of the year were of the value of 14,848,000*l.*; the exports, 14,198,000*l.*

The yield of gold exceeded that for any year in the past twenty years.

Queensland.—In Queensland the features of the year's record were a distinct advance in the direction of free trade, and a growing indifference to the cause of federation. The success which has attended the policy of free trade in New South Wales had evidently excited the emulation of Queens-

land, which, like Victoria, is beginning to fear that her neighbour by throwing open her ports to the commerce of the world is likely to profit at the expense of those who abide by the fallacies of protection. In the matter of federation the course followed by Queensland was less to be commended, and indeed is scarcely intelligible. Queensland under recent Governments used to be one of the most zealous in urging unity upon the colonies. If now she has slackened in her zeal for federation to the extent of being called "hollow and unreliable," it is because, the New South Wales Premier suggested, the Labour party fears that its influence will be dissipated and lowered in a Federal Parliament. Other theories were that the Queensland Government was afraid that the movement in favour of a new division of the colony would gather strength under a federal system—the Separationists being the strongest advocates of federation. Whatever may be her motives, it is undeniable that the action of Queensland has seriously injured the cause of unity, though it is confidently believed that, finding the measure is proceeded with in spite of her, she will be compelled ere long to join in the general movement towards a federal government.

The Parliament was dissolved on February 22. In view of the general elections the Premier, Sir Henry Nelson, issued an address to his constituents on February 25. In this he announced, as the leading point of his policy, a revision of the tariff in the direction of free trade, and attacked the Labour party (which in Queensland had practically become the Opposition) for its obstruction of useful and necessary legislation. In regard to the sugar interest the Premier spoke of encouraging the substitution of the labour of whites for that of Kanakas.

The elections were held on March 24. The programme issued by the Labour party was one of pure socialism, advocating, among other sweeping measures, the division of property and of wealth among all citizens, less the amount required for the public service. This programme apparently did not meet with the popular approval, for out of twenty-one seats contested by the candidates of the Labour party only four were won.

The general result of the elections was materially to strengthen the Government. Of the sixty-two members returned forty-four were Ministerialists, eight of the Opposition proper, seventeen of the Labour party, and three Independents.

Some changes were made in the constitution of the Cabinet in consequence of the elections, Mr. F. G. Foxton succeeding Mr. A. H. Barlow as Secretary for Lands.

Parliament was opened on June 16, among the measures announced being a bill for the representation of Queensland at the Intercolonial Federal Conference. The measure was, in one essential respect, different from any of the Enabling Bills passed by the other colonial Parliaments. Instead of election

by the people at large the Queensland bill provided that the delegates should be elected by Parliament, that is by the Legislative Assembly. The second reading of the bill was carried in the Assembly by a majority of 40 to 25. In reply to animadversions on its character, as being different in principle from the Enabling Bills in the other colonies, the Attorney-General insisted that Queensland "held the key of the position"—that "she would pass the bill in any shape she pleased." An amendment in favour of popular election was defeated by 36 votes to 26.

On coming up to the Upper House, the Council could not resist the temptation logically to carry out the principle advocated by the Government. If the delegates to the Federal Convention were not to be chosen by the people but by Parliament, then the Legislative Council, as one of the two Houses, of equal power under the Constitution, had as good a right to elect delegates as the Legislative Assembly. The dispute between the two Houses raged for some time. In spite of the efforts of the Government to induce the Council to give way—efforts which did not seem to the public to be very earnest—the Council insisted upon claiming the right of electing delegates to the Federal Conference equally with the Assembly. The intervention of Mr. Reid, the New South Wales Premier, who was upon a visit to Queensland, proved ineffectual in removing the difficulty. In the result the Federal Enabling Bill was shelved for the session, Queensland remaining, at the end of the year, the only Australasian colony without representatives at the meeting of the federal delegates in Hobart which had been arranged for January, 1897.

Several important modifications in the tariff were introduced by ministers, duties to the extent of 50,000*l.* a year being taken off several articles of export, chiefly machinery.

A federal delegation from Victoria arrived at Brisbane on June 8, and held a public meeting in support of federation. There was but a scanty attendance and little enthusiasm, though the speakers were heard with attention.

An address was presented to the Governor by the Separation League on June 8, which expressed extreme disappointment at the neglect of the Imperial Government to grant autonomy to the Central Division of Queensland, and great dissatisfaction at the language employed by the Secretary of State. The address further affirmed that separation should not wait on federation, and declared that the people of the Central Division were determined to carry the movement to a successful issue. His Excellency, in his reply, did not give much encouragement to his petitioners, but hinted that federation might, when accomplished, satisfy their political aspirations.

The Parliament was prorogued on December 22.

Lord Lamington, the new Governor, arrived at Brisbane on April 9.

The revenue for the year ending June 30 was stated to be 3,642,000*l.*, an increase of 229,000*l.*

A serious outbreak of an epidemic among the herds, called the cattle tick, broke out in the northern districts, which was doing great mischief in the outlying stations. It is supposed to have been derived from the kangaroos. Stringent laws were passed to check the progress of the evil, which had caused much loss to the stock-owners.

South Australia.—The year's record for South Australia is dull and uneventful. The colony is slowly developing its material resources, while advancing politically in the perilous road taken by New Zealand. Female suffrage has become law and the first experiment of its working is claimed to be a success. While only 66·33 per cent. of men went to the polls at the recent general election, the proportion of women who voted was 66·44. The results in practical legislation of the predominant female voter were not very marked, though there is a distinct increase in the tendency of the South Australian Legislature to take in hand the moral and social welfare of the people.

At the beginning of the year a difference of opinion between ministers led to the resignation of office by Mr. Gordon, the Chief Secretary. He was succeeded by Mr. O'Loughlin.

The policy of the Government was declared by the Prime Minister, Mr. Kingston, on April 2. It had some features of novelty, beyond anything which had been proposed in an Australasian Legislature. The ministerial programme included the referendum, elective Ministries, the reduction of the Upper House franchise, economy in finance, local option, etc. The chief novelty was a scheme for the biennial retirement of half the members of Parliament in turn, so as to secure a continuity of session and perpetual touch with the electors.

The Parliament was opened on June 11, when the Governor announced these proposals of his Ministry, and spoke of the successful working of female suffrage.

Among the measures introduced during the session was a bill, presumably due to the influence of the female voters, prohibiting the employment of women as barmaids in hotels after the year 1900. This was petitioned against by seventy-three barmaids, who succeeded in getting the clause struck out in the Legislative Council.

The Legislative Council also threw out the bill restricting the immigration of coloured persons by the casting vote of the Speaker.

The financial prospects of the colony were satisfactory. The revenue for the year ending June 30 was 2,612,038*l.*, being an increase of 157,653*l.* over 1894-5.

An exploration party left Adelaide on May 26, under the leadership of Mr. Wells, to examine the unknown and unmapped portions of the continent. Another party, under Mr.

Hübbe, was equipped by the Government, and reached Menzies in Western Australia, over 1,000 miles from Adelaide, on June 9. Mr. Hübbe reported the country traversed as waterless and unfit for pastoral occupation, though it is believed that he made discoveries of auriferous tracts, which have been communicated to the Government.

Western Australia.—The progress of Western Australia in material development during the year was in every way satisfactory. The gold mines continued to yield good results, while new discoveries were being made almost every week. The measures for the supply of water to the gold fields, and for connecting them with the railway system, had tended greatly to the prosperity of the miners and to the advantage of the community. The population increased at a rate much in excess of that of the other colonies, while all the branches of finance, industry and commerce were in a healthy condition.

A grand banquet was given at Perth to the Prime Minister, Sir John Forrest, on January 10, to celebrate the thirtieth year of his connection with the colony. Sir John Forrest completed this year his record, having held office continuously longer than any Prime Minister had done in any Australasian colony.

There were differences in the Cabinet in connection chiefly with the department of railways, which culminated in Mr. Venn, the minister, being dismissed by the Governor on his refusal to resign. Mr. Piesse was appointed in his place as Minister of Railways.

The Parliament was opened by the Governor in a speech in which he congratulated the colony on its bright and promising future. A great scheme of water supply to the gold fields was announced, to cost 2,500,000*l.* There were said to be 100,000 acres of gold fields under lease.

The railway from Perth to Coolgardie was completed, and a further extension to Kalgorlie, better known as Hannans, was opened on September 5 with all the ceremonies. A still further extension to Menzies was projected.

The revenue for the year ending June 30 was 1,858,694*l.*, as against 1,125,940*l.* for the previous year.

A Federal Enabling Bill, on lines similar to those which had been adopted in the other colonies, passed its second reading on October 1, and was quickly made law.

The Parliament was prorogued on October 27.

Tasmania.—The Parliament was opened on January 7. The Governor's speech was solely occupied by the Federal Enabling Bill, which was passed through all its stages in a House unanimous in support of the Government, by January 9.

The Parliament was reopened for business on July 10, when the Treasurer made his financial statement, showing a tolerably satisfactory condition of things. He estimated the year's revenue at 786,610*l.* and the expenditure at 751,862*l.* There

was still, however, a total deficiency on past years of 455,127*l.*, which it was proposed to reduce by 72,907*l.* during the year. There had been surpluses, it was said, for three consecutive years.

New Zealand.—The progress made by the colony under the new and vigorous *régime* inaugurated by Mr. Seddon was fully maintained during the year, although there were signs that the people were becoming impatient of the maternal rule of the Ministry, which had taken in charge not only the properties and lives of the people but their fortunes and morals. The legislation of the year was characterised by those ultra-socialistic features which have distinguished this New Zealand Government among colonial Governments. From public farming to pawn-broking, the supervision of housemaids, and the elimination of tuberculosis, there is no duty pertaining to the head of a family and no individual business or enterprise which has not been attempted by the Seddon Ministry. It is but just to say, however, that this audacious interference with concerns hitherto supposed not to belong to the state has been attended with a fair amount of success, and at least has not involved any disturbance of the public credit. The colony continues to flourish, its population to increase and its finances to improve, in spite of the fantastic experiments in government.

At the beginning of the year some changes were made in the constitution of the Cabinet, consequent on the appointment of Mr. Reeves to the agency in London. Mr. T. Thompson succeeded Mr. Reeves as Minister of Justice and Education, while Mr. A. R. Guinnet became Attorney-General.

At the bye-election for Christchurch to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Reeves' resignation the Government received a rebuff—Mr. C. Lewis, the Opposition candidate, being returned by a majority of 1,500 votes.

The quarrel between Mr. Seddon and the Legislative Council assumed an acute stage in the early part of the year. In a speech made in April the Premier threatened the Council with measures to bring it "more in touch with the people." In a Blue Book the correspondence between the Governor and the Prime Minister was published, in which Mr. Seddon accused Lord Glasgow of favouring the Upper House, and criticised sharply the nominations to the Council—warning his Excellency that he was "loosening the ties between the colony and England." The Governor replied by quoting the Constitution and referring the question to the Secretary of State.

The Parliament was opened on June 11. The Governor congratulated the colony on the settlement of the Transvaal difficulty. He declared the finances to be in a sound condition, and native products to be increasing. The Government advance of 500,000*l.* to settlers had led to satisfactory results.

He recommended legislation against coloured aliens and “undesirable persons.” The earning power of the people was said to have increased. The Government would introduce measures for granting old age pensions, against usurious interest, and in favour of fair rents, the control of the sale of liquor, and the referendum.

Mr. Ward, the Treasurer, whose conduct in connection with the Colonial Bank had been severely condemned by the Chief Justice, he being charged with using the credit of the Farmers’ Society to promote private ventures, resigned office on June 17. Mr. Seddon assumed his place at the Treasury.

An act to restrict undesirable immigrants was passed by the Assembly, the Indian subjects of the Queen being exempted from its provisions.

Mr. Seddon, as Treasurer, delivered his budget speech on July 13. The revenue was declared to have reached 4,555,000*l.*, while the expenditure was 4,370,000*l.* The public debt had increased by 2,500,000*l.* A new loan of 1,000,000*l.* would be required.

The Assembly passed the Elective Executive Bill by the casting vote of the Speaker, in spite of the opposition of the Government.

The Legislative Council threw out the Asiatics’ Restriction Bill, upon which Mr. Seddon threatened “a crusade” against the Upper House.

Among the items of social legislation was a measure for establishing state pawn-shops, which the Premier promised to take into consideration.

The Government brought in a bill to prevent the introduction of persons afflicted with tuberculosis, which included heavy penalties on masters of ships bringing consumptive persons to the colony.

A vote of want of confidence, moved by the Opposition on August 5, was defeated by 40 to 18.

Mr. Watson, the President of the Bank of New Zealand, was fined 500*l.* for refusing to disclose the names of persons whose accounts had been written off to the Parliamentary Committee.

The report of the Legislative Council Committee on the affairs of the Bank of New Zealand stated that there was no evidence that the Government or the late Treasurer was connected with the negotiations for the purchase of the Colonial Bank. The committee consisted of seven members of the Opposition and three Ministerialists.

A Juvenile Depravity Bill was introduced by the Premier to prevent girls loitering in the public streets after 10 o’clock. If not otherwise claimed, they were to be taken to the house of some “married person of good repute” to be questioned on their parentage and the reasons for their loitering.

An Eight Hours Bill was passed by the Assembly on

September 25, and rejected by the Council by 15 to 13 votes a few days after.

The Government met with several defeats in the Assembly; hostile amendments to its measures being repeatedly carried, though the regular Opposition was insignificant in numbers.

The Parliament was dissolved on October 21.

In his speech before the general election, Mr. Seddon declared that the "cardinal plank" of the ministerial policy was land settlement.

The elections were held on December 5. The women voted largely, and there was much popular excitement. In the result the Government, though victorious, had its majority greatly reduced. The members returned included thirty-eight Ministerialists, twenty-seven of the Opposition and five Independents. The candidates for local option were everywhere beaten.

Mrs. Yates, once Mayor of Onehunga, was decisively beaten on putting up a second time for that office.

The Maoris held a great meeting in the Ohinemutu district to express sympathy with Queen Victoria in her recent troubles in the Transvaal. The chief of the Arawas, a tribe ever loyal to the British, declared his readiness to form a regiment for service in South Africa. A telegram was sent with this offer to the Governor.

A meeting of colonists at Auckland passed a resolution applauding the statesmanlike and patriotic conduct of the Imperial Ministry in regard to Venezuela and the Transvaal, averring that its policy had been such as to intensify the loyal sentiments to the Queen of England and to "make us prouder than ever to belong to the Empire of Great Britain."

Polynesia.—The project of the annexation of Norfolk Island, which is colonised by the descendants of the mutineers of the *Bounty*, to New South Wales, was not entertained favourably by the islanders, but it is not supposed that the Imperial Government will be deterred from its decision.

A bitter feeling was reported between the British and the Germans in Samoa. The Germans refused to attend the festivities in honour of the Queen's birthday.

A force under Sir William Macgregor, the High Commissioner, defeated the Tugeri, a notorious tribe of skull-hunters, who had been making raids into British territory. The natives were encountered coming down the river from the Dutch side in sixty-five canoes, of which sixty were captured with a vast quantity of food.

A German expedition into the interior of New Guinea reported the discovery of a large navigable river, flowing through a thickly populated country, which was explored for 200 miles.

A boat's crew from the Austrian war-ship *Albatross*, con-

taining Baron von Norbeck, was treacherously attacked at Guadalcanar, in the Solomon Islands, and the baron and a midshipman killed.

Troubles had broken out again in the Island of Raiatea between the inhabitants and the French. The natives, who have ever claimed to be independent of the Tahiti Protectorate, hoisted the English flag, which was fired at and shot away by a French gun-boat, and again hoisted. A French war-ship took the British consul from Papeete to Raiatea for the purpose of advising the natives not to use the British flag, the island being French. The natives, however, insisted that Queen Victoria was their mother, and refused to lower their flag. The French were said to be trying to starve the islanders into subjection.

The inhabitants of Faureville, New Hebrides, on the other hand, are desirous of annexation to France. They have petitioned the French Government to be annexed. The New Hebrides at present are, according to the treaty, under the joint protection of England and France.

PART II.
CHRONICLE OF EVENTS
IN 1896.

JANUARY.

1. The New Year's honours included the grant of peerages to Sir Frederick Leighton, P.R.A., and Mr. H. Hucks Gibbs, many years member for the City of London, and the K.C.B. to Mr. H. H. Johnston, Consul-General in British Central Africa.

— The poet-laureateship, which had been vacant for three years since the death of Lord Tennyson, conferred upon Mr. Alfred Austin, the author of several volumes of verse and prose, and a leader-writer on the *Standard* newspaper.

— The Cunard steamer *Cephalonia*, from Boston to Liverpool, struck in a fog on a ledge of the South Stack rocks off the coast of Anglesey. The passengers were landed in safety, and the ship floated into Holyhead Harbour, where she was grounded and sank.

— Dr. Jameson and his force of 600 men, having reached the neighbourhood of Krügersdorp on the way to Johannesburg without resistance, found themselves opposed by the Boers under General Joubert. After six-and-thirty hours' fighting Dr. Jameson's force was driven back with some loss. Having been twenty-four hours without food, and expended all their ammunition, ultimately surrendered to a force six times their number.

2. The names of the five members of the Venezuelan Commission appointed by President Cleveland published, and with one exception met with approval.

— The Porte, after much pressure, consented to allow the foreign consuls at Aleppo to mediate between the Zeitun insurgent Armenians and the Turkish authorities.

— The Fellows of the Royal College of Surgeons, by 47 votes against 10, resolved that women should be admitted to the diplomas of the college.

3. The German Emperor, after a conference with the Chancellor and several members of the Ministry, telegraphed to President Krüger his congratulations in terms virtually recognising his independence.

3. The continental press, with rare exceptions, irrespective of political opinions, contained articles bitterly hostile to Great Britain, the German papers leading the way.

— Massacres of the Armenians by the Turkish troops reported to have taken place at Orfah and Biredyk on the Euphrates, and the whole vilayet of Aleppo stated to be in a ferment.

— Mr. Chamberlain telegraphed to President Krüger that he relied on the latter's generosity towards his prisoners in the moment of victory.

4. Seven members of the Canadian Ministry, under Sir M. Bowell, tendered their resignation on the ground that in the interests of the Conservative party a change in the leadership was desirable.

— Gungunhama, the native chief who had been threatening the Portuguese colony at Delagoa Bay, and his family, captured by a Portuguese officer and brought to Lorenzo Marquez.

— The President of the United States signed the proclamation admitting Utah as a State of the Union. Existing polygamous marriages were recognised, but prohibited for the future.

— The chimney of an unoccupied mill at Burnley fell, crushing three shops and killing three people.

6. Mr. Cecil Rhodes, the Premier of the Cape Ministry, resigned in consequence of the state of affairs produced by Dr. Jameson's advance against the Free State.

— It was reported that the Cuban insurgents, having advanced towards Havana, had captured several towns in the neighbourhood and threatened the capital.

— President Cleveland, having declined the offer of the bankers' syndicate, threw open a loan to the public, offering it under the same terms—a thirty years' 4 per cent. gold loan.

7. In view of the disturbed state of diplomatic relations with Germany, orders issued for the immediate commissioning of a flying squadron of six battleships and cruisers.

— The Reform Committee at Johannesburg agreed, in compliance with the demand of the Transvaal Government, to lay down their arms as a condition precedent to the consideration of their grievances; but at the instance of the High Commissioner, Sir H. Robinson, the townspeople agreed to surrender unconditionally and give up their arms. The Transvaal Government at the same time gave up Dr. Jameson and his fellow-prisoners.

— A determined attack made by the Shoan army under King Menelek upon the Italians at Makaleh. After ten hours' incessant fighting the natives were driven off, but subsequently captured the place.

8. A sharp shock of earthquake felt at Meshed, Kelat, and other towns in Persia, doing immense damage and causing the deaths of over 1,100 persons.

8. The Queen addressed a message to President Krüger expressing her satisfaction at his decision to hand over his prisoners to her Government.

— During a violent storm off Lago Maggiore an Italian torpedo boat with its entire crew was lost in consequence of the bursting of the boiler.

9. At a meeting of the directors of the British South Africa Company held in London, it was decided to request her Majesty's Government to institute an inquiry upon oath into Dr. Jameson's raid.

— Seventy-two members of the Reform Committee at Johannesburg arrested on a charge of high treason and conveyed to Pretoria.

10. President Krüger issued a proclamation to the people of Johannesburg in which, after condemning the treacherous invasion of the country, he asked them to adopt such an attitude as would make it possible for his Government to appear before the Volksraad with the motto "Forget and Forgive."

— M. Rosenthal, a German from Nuremberg, who under the name of Jacques St. Cère had written daily articles on foreign affairs in the *Figaro* newspaper of Paris, arrested on the charge of being concerned with others in levying blackmail on M. Lebaudy.

11. Major Sir Claude Maxwell Macdonald, K.C.M.G., appointed Minister at Peking in succession to Sir N. O'Connor.

— Dr. Jameson officially removed from his office of Administrator of Matabeleland on the recommendation of the British South Africa Company.

— The Australian Colonies, through the New South Wales Government, addressed to Lord Salisbury a patriotic assurance of their sympathy and support.

13. After some days' negotiations the Canadian Cabinet was reconstructed by the return of six of the outgoing ministers; Sir M. Bowell undertaking to retire in favour of Sir C. Tupper at the end of the session.

— It was understood that in the course of an exchange of letters between the Queen and her grandson, the German Emperor, the latter gave an assurance that he had no intention to offend the susceptibility of the English Government by his telegram to President Krüger.

— Mr. M. D. Chalmers, county court judge at Birmingham, appointed legal member of the Council of India in succession to Sir James Miller.

14. Mr. A. J. Balfour presented with the freedom of the City of Glasgow in St. Andrew's Hall, where he afterwards addressed a large audience on non-political topics.

— The annual conference of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain met at Birmingham under the presidency of Mr. Pickard, M.P., who spoke chiefly on the relations of workmen and coalowners.

— A large force of armed burghers paraded the streets of Johannesburg, but no disturbance ensued; the inhabitants having been practically disarmed.

14. The Spanish steamer *Circar* of Barcelona, from Hamburg to Vigo, run down by the German ship *Nereus* about eight miles off the *Galloper* lightship in the English Channel. Twenty of her crew succeeded in reaching the shore, and the remainder were rescued by the *Nereus*.

15. Sir P. Currie received in private audience by the Sultan to present an autograph letter from the Queen.

— It was announced that an arrangement of the Siam and Upper Mekong questions had been arrived at by the abandonment of the idea of a buffer State and by making the Mekong River the boundary of the English and French possessions in North Siam.

16. At the Cambridge Assizes the sub-agent of the Radical candidate at the recent parliamentary election convicted of falsely "pairing" voters, who were thus induced to refrain from voting. He was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour.

— Mr. Chamberlain, on returning to Birmingham for a few days' rest, received an imposing ovation at the railway station.

17. In the German Reichstag Count Kaunitz's bill for creating a State monopoly of imported cereals rejected by 219 to 97 votes.

— Marshal Campos, who had been despatched to Cuba, relieved of his command in consequence of the hostility displayed by the Havana political parties to his conciliatory policy towards the rebels. General Weyler appointed Captain-General of Cuba in succession.

— Kumassi occupied without firing a shot by the troops under Sir Francis Scott, within fourteen days after having crossed the Prah.

— Prince Hohenlohe, the German Chancellor, laid before the Reichstag the new code intended to establish a uniform legal system throughout the empire.

18. The definitive treaty signed between France and the Queen of Madagascar giving the French Resident complete control over the foreign relations and internal administration of the island.

— The proposed settlement of the dispute in the shipbuilding trade suggested by Lord James accepted on the Clyde by 1,729 to 465 votes but rejected by the Belfast men by 578 to 127 votes.

— The twenty-fifth anniversary of the formation of the German Empire celebrated at Berlin with great pomp and solemnity, the Emperor receiving a distinguished company at the Schloss, and in his speech making a significant allusion to the "Greater German Empire" outside the limits of the fatherland.

— The Duc d'Orleans, while riding with the Duc d'Aosta in the neighbourhood of Turin, met with a serious accident. In crossing a field his horse slipped in a ditch and fell upon the duke's foot, which was terribly crushed.

19. The principal theatre at Ekaterinoslaff, a wooden structure, totally destroyed by a fire which broke out during a performance. In the panic which ensued upwards of sixty lives were lost and many more were injured.

20. The public submission of King Prempeh and his relatives took place in the open market-place of the Ashanti capital. The terms imposed by the British Government were accepted, and the king sent to Cape Coast Castle.

— Prince Henry of Battenberg, the husband of H.R.H. Princess Beatrice, who had volunteered for the Ashanti campaign, and had been invalided shortly after reaching the Prahsu, died on board ship on his way to Madeira, where he had been sent to recruit.

— M. Loubet elected President of the French Senate in succession to M. Challemel-Lacour (resigned).

— The resolution respecting the Monroe doctrine reported to the United States Senate from the Committee on Foreign Relations.

— Lord Rayleigh appointed to the post of scientific adviser of the Trinity House, vacant since its resignation by Professor Tyndall.

21. At Sydney, N.S.W., a large meeting of Irishmen, presided over by Cardinal Moran, decided to form a rifle corps for colonial defence.

— Dr. Jameson and his officers arrived at Durban from Pretoria, and were immediately conducted on board the troopship *Victoria* and sailed for England.

22. The review of the flying squadron, assembled at Spithead, by her Majesty, abandoned in consequence of the arrival of the news of Prince Henry's death.

— The election for North Belfast resulted in the return of Sir James Haslett (C.) by 3,595 against 3,434 votes given to Mr. James Turner (Ind. C.).

— The Amalgamated Society of Engineers officially declared their dispute in the shipbuilding trade both on the Clyde and at Belfast to be finally settled, and the Executive Committee decided to close the strike, which had lasted eleven weeks.

— Lieutenant Alston, with 150 regular troops and 5,000 natives, attacked the great slave-holding chief Mwasi Kazunga, who headed a confederation and an army of 20,000 men against the British authority on the west shore of Lake Nyassa. The natives were defeated in three encounters, their fortified places and settlements taken and destroyed.

23. A new treaty signed between France and Madagascar, under which the latter country definitely became a French possession.

— The vacancies in the French Academy caused by the death of M. de Lesseps and M. Camille Doucet respectively, filled by M. Anatole France, who obtained 21 votes against 12 given to M. Francis Charmes, and the Marquis Costa de Beauregard by 19 votes against 12 given for M. Emile Deschanel.

— The Italian garrison under Colonel Galliano, which had bravely defended Makaleh for some weeks, allowed to leave with their wounded and baggage, mules having been supplied by the Abyssinian chief, Ras Makonner, as a tribute to their valour.

24. The petition against the return of Colonel Foster for Lancaster on the ground of bribery dismissed after a trial extending over ten days.

24. The Colonial Association of Berlin, supported by Dr. Peters, the African traveller, strongly endorsed the agitation in various quarters for a large and immediate augmentation of the German Navy.

— It was announced in various capitals of Europe that a treaty or secret understanding had been arrived at between Russia and Turkey on the lines of the Treaty of Unkiar Skelessi in 1833. In all quarters the existence of such a treaty was officially denied.

25. General Weyler, the newly appointed Captain-General of Cuba, left Barcelona with reinforcements amid great enthusiasm of the population.

— The American steamer *St. Paul*, with a large number of passengers, ran ashore off Long Branch, New York, during a fog. No lives were lost.

— An explosion occurred at Messrs. Curtis & Harvey's gunpowder factory at Hounslow, wrecking three mills. All the workmen had left the building, and no one was injured.

27. At a meeting of the Incorporated Society of Authors, presided over by Mr. Rider Haggard, Mr. Hall Caine gave an account of his negotiations with the Ministry and publishers of the Canadian Dominion on the question of copyright.

— A disastrous explosion took place at the Tylor's Town pits in the Rhondda Valley, South Wales, at a time when nearly 150 men were in the pit, of whom upwards of fifty-five were killed.

— At Washington the House of Representatives adopted by 143 to 26 votes the Senate's resolution expressing the hope that the European Powers would secure the execution of the provisions of the Berlin Treaty regarding Armenia.

— Terrible storms of wind and rain broke over a large district of North Queensland, causing great loss of life and property. The town of Townsville was almost destroyed by a tornado, and fifty miles of the Northern Railway were submerged.

28. The election for the seat in St. Pancras (South), vacant by the death of Sir Julian Goldsmid (U.), resulted in the return of Mr. H. M. Jessel (U.) by 2,631 votes against 1,375 given to Mr. Harris (R.).

— The Cambridge Music Hall in Whitechapel totally destroyed by fire, which occurred at mid-day when the building was empty.

— Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria received by the Pope, who confirmed his previous decision that the baptism of the infant Prince Boris according to the rite of the Greek Orthodox Church was not permissible.

29. The proposals of peace made by the Emperor Menelek of Abyssinia declared to be unacceptable by the Italian Government.

— Great distress reported from Fortune Bay, Newfoundland, in consequence of the failure of the herring fishery, and in St. John's, where building work had been stopped.

30. The election for the Brixton division of Lambeth, in consequence of Lord Carmarthen's succession to the peerage, resulted in the return of Hon. E. Hibbard (U.) by 4,493 votes against 2,131 for Mr. E. W. Runce (R.).

30. The Sunderland election petition presented by Mr. Storey, the defeated candidate, on the ground of libellous statements, dismissed with costs.

— The French Cabinet agreed to the Income Tax proposals of the Finance Minister being included in the Budget. Incomes of less than 2,500 fr. were to be exempted, and above that amount a progressive rate from 1 to 5 per cent. was to be imposed.

31. The Colonial Office issued a notice warning those who had received anonymous telegrams from Johannesburg to place little reliance upon the alarming statements contained in them.

— Lord Salisbury, as principal guest of the Nonconformist Unionist Association, reviewed the state of politics abroad, and bore testimony to the value of the Nonconformist support at the recent elections.

— The report of the New York Yacht Committee on the charges made by Lord Dunraven published. The committee showed very conclusively that Lord Dunraven's statements originated in a misapprehension, and were completely disproved.

FEBRUARY.

1. The United States Senate passed by 42 to 35 votes a bill providing for the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1.

— Mr. Justin M'Carthy's resignation of the chairmanship of the Irish Parliamentary party announced.

— Sir Francis Scott and his staff arrived at Cape Coast Castle on their return from Kumassi.

3. The funeral of Lord Leighton in St. Paul's Cathedral solemnised with much pomp, representatives of the Queen and other members of the royal family attending.

— The Indian cotton duties formally passed by the Indian Council after a prolonged debate, three native members voting against it.

— A fire causing damage valued at \$2,000,000 broke out in Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, in a seven-storey building and rapidly spread to the adjoining buildings.

— The cruiser *Blenheim* arrived at Plymouth with the body of Prince Henry of Battenberg.

4. Mr. Cecil Rhodes reached London after a voyage which had been twice delayed by accidents to the steamer.

— A fire which broke out at Singleton Abbey, Swansea, was not extinguished until the whole of the west wing had been gutted.

— Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria issued a proclamation to his people announcing his intention to have his son, Prince Boris, baptised into the Orthodox (Greek) Church.

— The French Senate, notwithstanding the opposition of the Premier and the War Minister, passed a bill prohibiting Government and railway servants from taking part in organised strikes.

5. The funeral of Prince Henry of Battenberg took place at Whippingham Church, Isle of Wight, the Queen and Princess Beatrice accompanying the procession from the wharf at East Cowes.

— General Martinez Campos arrived at Madrid, and unfavourably received by several of the crowd, one of whom was shot by a gendarme.

— The bidding for the United States National Four per cent. loan of \$100,000,000 opened at the Treasury, Washington, and speedily covered more than six times over.

— A bomb exploded at Lisbon in the house of a doctor, who had certified as insane the anarchist who had thrown stones at the King when driving.

6. A National Conference of Miners, consisting of 70 delegates representing 508,000 miners, held at the Westminster Palace Hotel under the presidency of Mr. Pickard, M.P.

— Mr. Chamberlain's despatch to Sir H. Robinson, the High Commissioner in South Africa, reviewing the recent crisis and its causes published in the *London Gazette*.

7. The Czar telegraphed to Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria congratulations on "his patriotic decision" with regard to the conversion of Prince Boris.

— Lord Salisbury and Mr. A. J. Balfour, in reply to a deputation from the Church of England Temperance Society, stated that they could hold out no prospect of dealing with the licensing question during the ensuing session.

— At a meeting of the Irish National Federation held in Dublin, Mr. John Dillon was elected by 47 to 26 votes; the minority, composed of Mr. Healy's supporters, having been outvoted on several matters, withdrew.

— The territories of Montsioa and Ikaning withdrawn from the British South Africa Company and placed under the direct administration of the High Commissioner.

8. It was announced that the future conduct of affairs in British South Africa having been provisionally settled, Mr. Rhodes would immediately return to Rhodesia without making any statement on recent events, and he left London on the following day.

— At a meeting of the Irish Parliamentary party Mr. Justin M'Carthy's resignation of chairmanship was received with regret, and a resolution expressing gratitude for his services was passed unanimously. Mr. Sexton was subsequently elected to the post, conditionally on his acceptance, which was, however, not obtained.

— In the Reichstag the German Chancellor, Prince Hohenlohe, stated that the Federal Government had decided not to comply with a request from the bimetallists to reopen the Monetary Conference.

10. The petition against Mr. Lowles, M.P. (U.) for Haggerston, terminated after twelve days' inquiry in his retention of the seat; the judges agreeing on two sets of cases, and disagreeing on that of the distribution of food tickets.

10. President Krüger informed Sir H. Robinson that he was willing to accept Mr. Chamberlain's invitation to visit England provided the subjects to be discussed were settled beforehand.

— A huge aerolite exploded in the atmosphere above Madrid at an estimated height of twenty-one miles. No fragments of any size were found, but many windows were broken by the concussion and some buildings more seriously damaged.

11. The second session of the fourteenth Parliament of Queen Victoria opened by royal commission.

— The Duke and Duchess of York opened the great hall of the Church House at Westminster, erected from designs by Sir Arthur Blomfield, A.R.A., at a cost of 88,000*l*. The original idea was suggested by Dr. Harvey Goodwin, Bishop of Carlisle, as a memorial of the Queen's jubilee.

— A statue of John Bright, erected in Westminster Hall, unveiled by the Duke of Westminster.

— The French Senate passed a resolution censuring M. Ricard, the Minister of Justice, for his procedure in reopening the investigation of the Southern Railway scandal.

— A revolutionary outbreak occurred at Seoul (Korea), when the Prime Minister and seven officials were murdered, and the King and Crown Prince were forced to take refuge in the Russian legation.

12. At a general assembly of the Royal Academy Mr. Solomon J. Solomon and Mr. Edward A. Abbey were elected associates, and Herr Adolf Menzel (Germany), painter, and M. Paul Dubois (France), sculptor, honorary foreign academicians.

— The Chinese Government definitely consented to the opening of the West River to trade, and the agreement signed at Peking.

— The preliminary investigation of the charges against the political prisoners at Pretoria after lasting several days adjourned *sine die*.

— The Transvaal Government published a despatch to the British agent in Pretoria complaining of the publication in London, before its receipt in the Transvaal, of Mr. Chamberlain's despatch to President Krüger.

13. A telegram from Irkutsk announced that a Siberian trader there had received intelligence that Dr. Nansen had reached the North Pole in safety.

— A terrible disaster occurred in the Brisbane River; the passenger steamer *Pearl* capsized and upwards of forty persons on board were drowned.

— In the German Reichstag the Foreign Secretary, Baron Von Marschall, made a statement with regard to the attitude of Germany on the Transvaal question.

14. The conversion of Prince Boris of Bulgaria, aged two years, took place in the Cathedral of Sofia in presence of a large assembly; General Kutuzoff standing sponsor proxy for the Czar. The representatives of Great Britain and of the Triple Alliance were not present.

14. The House of Representatives at Washington, by 216 to 91 votes, rejected the Free Silver Bill substituted by the Senate for the Bond Bill.

— Mr. Henry Smith, an old gentleman of eighty years, who lived alone in a detached house at Muswell Hill, murdered by burglars who had forced their way into the house and ransacked its contents.

— The Queen addressed a letter to the nation, published in the *Gazette*, thanking her subjects for their warm sympathy in her sorrow.

15. A new Electoral Reform Bill submitted to the Austrian Reichsrath increasing the number of seats in the House by 72; the landed proprietors to have 85 representatives, the towns 118; the chambers of commerce and industry, 21; the rural communes, 129, and the general body of electors, 72.

16. A serious fire, causing the death of eight persons and serious injury to another, took place in a lodging house in Church Street, Soho.

17. The second son of the Duke of York christened at Sandringham Parish Church, receiving the name of Albert Frederick Arthur George.

— A strike of tailors and mantle-makers, in which 25,000 persons were concerned, declared at Berlin.

— In the House of Commons the amendment in favour of amnesty for Irish political prisoners moved by Mr. Harrington negatived by 279 to 117 votes; Mr. J. E. H. Lecky, in his maiden speech, urging that a policy of clemency should, if possible, be adopted.

— Mr. David Lloyd Morgan, English Lecturer at the Swedish University at Lund, near Nalmö, and a young Danish girl found dead in a railway carriage, having apparently shot themselves between Copenhagen and Klampenborg.

18. At a meeting of the Irish Parliamentary party held at the House of Commons, Mr. John Dillon, M.P., elected, by 38 to 21 votes, chairman of the party, Mr. Sexton having finally declined, and, at the same time, announcing his retirement from Parliament.

— The Berlin branch of the German Colonial Association elected as its president Dr. Peters, an ardent supporter of the "Greater Germany" policy.

— The club house at Santarem, near Lisbon, burnt down during the carnival ball, and forty-three persons, all women but one, lost their lives.

19. A violent explosion of dynamite took place at Viedendorp, a poor suburb of Johannesburg. The whole district was blown to pieces, and very great loss of life was incurred. About fifty tons of dynamite waiting at the railway exploded while being shunted.

— A copy of the warrant, dated Borna, January 9, 1896, issued by the Congo State for the arrest of Colonel Lothaire for the illegal execution of Mr. Stokes, received at Brussels.

— Mont Gouffre, a mountain near La Combe (Gard), in the midst of a mining district, discovered to be in a state of movement. The water-courses in some pits were rendered useless, and great danger threatened

to machinery in and about the mines. It was found necessary also to alter the track of a portion of the railway to Alais which skirted the foot of the mountain.

20. In the House of Commons Mr. A. J. Balfour brought forward his new rules of procedure in Committee of Supply.

— The French Chamber of Deputies, by 309 to 185 votes, confirmed its previous vote of confidence in the Ministry, repudiating at the time any desire to force a conflict with the Senate.

— At Madrid five bombs were exploded in close proximity to the royal palace, but no one was injured and little damage done.

— The strike in the Berlin tailoring trade ended in a provisional agreement by which the masters conceded an advance of $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the wages paid before the strike.

— Sir J. E. Millais, R.A., elected President of the Royal Academy in succession to Lord Leighton. The only dissentient vote, his own, was cast for Mr. P. H. Calderon, R.A.

21. Earl Grey, one of the Directors of the British South Africa Company, appointed administrator of the company's territories in conjunction with Mr. Cecil Rhodes.

— At the Altcar Coursing Meeting the Waterloo Cup was won by Messrs. Fawcett's Fabulous Fortune, beating the Irish greyhound Woolf Hill; the Waterloo Plate by Mr. James Russel's Reception, and the Waterloo Purse by Sir Thomas Brocklebank's Biere.

22. The election for the Montrose Burghs, caused by the retirement of Mr. Shiress Will, Q.C. (R.), resulted in the return of Right Hon. John Morley (R.), by 4,565 votes against 2,572 given to Mr. John Wilson (U.); and that at Southampton, caused by the unseating of Mr. Tankerville Chamberlayne (C.), in the return of Sir F. Evans (R.), by 5,557 votes against 5,522 given to Mr. Candy, Q.C. (C.), and 273 to Mr. Gibson (Lab.).

— The annual football match (Association rules) between Oxford and Cambridge played at the Queen's Club grounds, West Kensington, resulting in the victory of Oxford by one goal to nothing.

— In the Portuguese Cortes the Minister of the Interior stated, on behalf of his colleagues, that the Government had never any intention of selling Lorenzo Marquez, and that a Government attempting it would not last two hours.

23. Dr. Jameson and his fellow-leaders of the Transvaal raid arrived at Plymouth, and, although not under arrest as prisoners, they were not permitted to land or to hold communication with any persons. His troopers, 350 in number, who came by another ship, also arrived at Plymouth, and were received with great enthusiasm on landing, and at once sent off to their respective homes.

24. Eridge Castle, the seat of the Marquess of Abergavenny, narrowly escaped destruction by fire, which before being extinguished destroyed much oak panelling and several oil paintings of value fixed in the wainscoting.

24. The Indian Government decided to set apart, as a gratuity, five lacs of rupees for the troops engaged in the Chitral campaign.

25. Dr. Jameson and his officers having arrived at Gravesend in the *Victoria* were transferred at Purfleet to a police boat, and brought up the river without attracting attention. They were landed at Waterloo Bridge, and conveyed to Bow Street at 6.30, where they were most enthusiastically received by those who had been waiting many hours. After a few formal inquiries they were released on their own recognisances for 1,000*l.* each to appear to answer charges under the Foreign Enlistment Act.

— At a meeting of the Bishops of the Episcopal Church of Ireland, held at Dublin, the Right Rev. William Alexander, Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, was elected Primate of All Ireland in succession to Dr. Gregg, deceased.

26. The Special Service Corps, under command of Sir Francis Scott, arrived in the Thames on their return from Ashanti, and were inspected on their disembarkation by Lord Wolseley, the Commander-in-Chief.

— The polling at Lichfield, consequent upon the unseating of Mr. Fulford (R.), resulted in the return of Mr. Courtenay Warner (R.), who received 4,483 votes against 3,955 recorded for Major Darwin (L.U.).

— The Sultan ordered the preparation of firmans nominating Prince Ferdinand Prince of Bulgaria and Governor-General of Eastern Roumelia.

27. Lord Dunraven's letters to the New York Yacht Club having been received and considered together with his resignation of his honorary membership of the club, it was resolved, after much discussion, to expel him from the club.

— A serious outbreak took place among the Moplahs, a fanatical tribe of Mussulmans in the Madras Presidency; the South Staffordshire Regiment having to be sent to quell their rising.

— In the French Chamber of Deputies, after two days' debate, the policy of the Government in Eastern Asia and the treaty with England was unanimously approved.

28. In the House of Commons, after a prolonged debate, the new rules of procedure regarding Supply and other points were agreed to.

— The Turkish Government consented to pay indemnities amounting to 500,000 fr. to the British, Russian, and French Consuls at Jeddah for the outrages on them by Bedouins.

— The United States Senate and House of Representatives at Washington passed concurrent resolutions in favour of according belligerent rights to the Cuban revolutionists, and of the friendly intervention of the United States Government to obtain the independence of Cuba.

29. The Sultan went in state from Yildiz Kiosk to perform certain ceremonial functions at Top Kapou. All sorts of precautions were taken for his safety, and numerous preventive arrests made.

29. Great popular excitement shown at Madrid, Barcelona, and other towns in Spain at the attitude taken by the United States Congress on Cuban affairs, and anti-American demonstrations took place in some places.

MARCH.

1. The Italian troops, under General Baratieri, in an engagement with the Shoan army, found themselves hopelessly outnumbered and forced to fall back with terrible loss of men and guns, ammunition and provisions. Two generals were killed and another wounded, and the total loss in killed and wounded fell little short of 5,000.

2. In the House of Commons the First Lord of the Admiralty (Mr. Goschen) explained the naval policy of the Government, and announced their intention to expend a further sum of 29,000,000*l.* on naval services.

— At Athens the King of Greece unveiled an excellent statue of Lord Byron, executed by M. Chapu and presented by M. Demetius Skylikis.

— Great floods reported from Mesopotamia, where the Tigris overflowed its banks, inundating a large tract of country and causing incalculable loss of life and property.

3. At a meeting of the Congregation of the Oxford University the resolution to admit women to the B.A. degree was rejected by 215 to 140 votes.

— President Faure, on visiting Cannes, had an interview with Mr. Gladstone.

— Lord Rosebery, as principal guest of the Eighty Club, made a speech on the political prospects of the Liberal party, and urged the adoption of a policy of concentration.

4. The Italian Ministry of Sr. Crispi, in view of the Abyssinia disaster, placed its resignation in the hands of the King, and General Baratieri relieved of his functions as Governor of Erythrea.

— All Spaniards holding consular posts under the United States Government resigned in consequence of the proceedings of Congress.

— A conference of Australian Premiers assembled at Sydney, under the presidency of Mr. G. H. Reid, to discuss Federal Defence, the Japanese Treaty, and other questions.

— 5. The trial at the Central Criminal Court of the five men charged with fraudulent conspiracy in connection with "The World's Great Marriage Association" resulted in sentences of from three to five years' penal servitude on four of the prisoners. It was shown that in one year they had obtained upwards of 9,000*l.* in "fees."

— The Vienna municipal elections, consequent on the summary dissolution of that body by imperial decree, resulted in the return of 96 Anti-Semites and 42 Liberals.

6. Serious disturbances took place at Milan, Parma, Pavia, and other large towns, where the mobs denounced the African policy of the Ministry, and demanded the withdrawal of Italian troops.

6. A Blue Book issued by the Foreign Office embodying the statement of the case of Great Britain in its boundary dispute with Venezuela.

7. The two rear coaches of an express train on the Great Northern Railway, running at the rate of seventy miles an hour, left the rails near Peterborough, and one of them thrown over a viaduct thirty feet above the road. Two passengers were killed and six others injured.

— The President of the French Republic, accompanied by his Prime Minister, M. Bourgeois, visited Marseilles, Aix, Arles, and Avignon, at all which places his minister was received with more public enthusiasm than himself.

9. The Queen left Windsor Castle for the continent, travelling by way of Portsmouth, Cherbourg, round Paris to Nice.

— The Italian Ministry reconstituted under the Marchese di Rudini and General Ricotti, who decided that national honour required the prosecution of the war in Abyssinia.

— The President of the French Republic conferred the Knighthood of the Legion of Honour on Prince Henri d'Orleans in recognition of his explorations in Yun-nan.

10. In the House of Commons an amendment to a resolution, proposed by Mr. Massey-Mainwaring, in favour of opening museums, etc., on Sundays, having been defeated by 178 to 93 votes, the resolution was agreed to without a division.

— Sir Arthur Arnold unanimously re-elected Chairman of the London County Council, Dr. Collins, Vice-Chairman, and Mr. Beachcroft, Deputy Chairman.

11. At the Paris Sorbonne the gold medal of the French Geographical Society presented to Prince Henri d'Orleans in recognition of his explorations in Eastern Asia.

— Colonel Sir R. E. Rowley Martin, K.C.M.G., British Commissioner in Swaziland, 1890-5, appointed Commandant-General of all police forces in Bechuanaland, Mashonaland, and Matabeleland, and Deputy Commissioner for South Africa.

— The preliminary investigations concerning the charges against the Reform Committee resumed at Pretoria after a month's interval.

12. The contract for an Anglo-German loan of 16,000,000*l.* to the Chinese Government signed at Peking, the loan to bear 5 per cent. interest and to be issued at 94.

— Comte Goluchowski, the Austrian Prime Minister, paid a visit to Berlin with the view, it was announced, of discussing the basis of the renewal of the Triple Alliance.

13. After a trial lasting twenty-five days the election judges decided, in the case of St. George's-in-the-East, that the allegations against the sitting member, Mr. Marks, had failed, and the petition was dismissed.

— In the German Reichstag during the discussion of the colonial Estimates the conduct of Dr. Peters, as Imperial Commissioner at

Kilima Njaro, was made the subject of severe censure from all sides of the House.

13. Negotiations opened by the Italian authorities with Menelek of Abyssinia with a view of obtaining satisfactory terms of peace.

— A succession of earthquakes passed through the greater portion of Chili, causing great damage at Santiago, Valparaiso, and elsewhere.

14. In consequence of the threatening attitude of the Dervishes, resulting from the Italian disaster in Eastern Africa, the Egyptian troops were ordered to advance towards Dongola, the British battalions being sent to Wady Halfa.

— The international football match (Rugby rules) between England and Scotland played at Glasgow, resulting in the defeat of England by a goal and two tries to nothing; and at Dublin Ireland defeated Wales by a goal and a try, and won the international championship for the year.

— The secessionists from the Salvation Army constituted themselves at New York, under Mr. Ballington Booth, as "God's American Volunteers."

16. In the House of Lords Lord James of Hereford introduced a bill for the supply of water to London and the suburbs.

— The Emperor of China signed an edict opening the West River to trade, subject to the conclusion of the Yun-nan frontier agreement.

— The Naval Works Bill issued, showing a contemplated expenditure of 14,040,000*l.*, spread over ten years. The most important works to be taken in hand were those at Keyham, Dover and Gibraltar.

17. In the House of Commons a resolution declaring that the instability of the relative value of gold and silver was injurious to the best interests of the country agreed to without a division, after a long discussion in which bimetallists and their opponents held their ground.

— The Marchese di Rudini, in the Italian Chamber, read the programme of the new Ministry, which included the conclusion of peace with Abyssinia.

— The Queen appointed the Emperor of Austria to be Colonel-in-Chief of the First (King's) Dragoon Guards.

18. The Congress of the Afrikander Bund assembled at Cape Town passed resolutions condemning Dr. Jameson's raid, and calling for an inquiry and an early session of Parliament.

— Considerable anxiety produced in the Chancelleries of the various European capitals by the statement that the French Foreign Minister, M. Berthelot, had called the attention of the British Ambassador to the gravity of the consequences of the step taken by the British troops in Egypt.

— A Dervish force, which after more than one unsuccessful attack had been largely strengthened, endeavoured to capture the Pass of Taberat near Kassala, but was driven back with great loss by the Italians.

19. At the Constitutional Club Lord Salisbury presented to Captain Middleton, the chief Conservative agent, a cheque for 10,000*l.* subscribed

by his friends and admirers for his eminent services in the last political campaign.

19. In the Chamber of Deputies M. Berthelot succeeded in removing the uneasiness caused by an authorised version of his words, and in restoring confidence in the pacific intentions of France.

— The polling in the Southern Division of Louth resulted in the return of Mr. M'Ghee (A.-P. Nat.) by 1,626 votes against Colonel Nolan (Parnellite), 1,249, and Mr. P. Cahan (Ind.), 469 votes.

20. In the House of Commons a vote of censure on the Egyptian policy of the Government, moved by Mr. John Morley, was rejected by 288 to 145 votes.

— In the Dominion Parliament (Lower House) at Ottawa the Manitoba Catholic Schools Bill was read a second time by 112 to 94 votes, after a continuous sitting of thirty-nine hours.

— The House of Representatives at Washington by 180 to 71 votes passed a resolution censuring Mr. Bayard, the United States Ambassador, for speeches delivered by him at Boston (Lincolnshire) and at Edinburgh.

— The advance column of the Dongola expeditionary force under Major Collinson occupied Akasheh without opposition.

21. At Berlin a grand banquet given in the new Parliament House to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the first sitting of the Reichstag, held in the Leipsige Strasse.

— In the Italian Chambers the Government of the Marchese di Rudini obtained a vote of confidence in the debate on the credits asked for the Italian campaign.

— Professor Herkomer elected Foreign Associate of the French Academy of Fine Arts, in the room of Lord Leighton.

22. General H. Kitchener, the Sirdar of the Egyptian Army, with Slatin Pasha and Major Wingate, left Cairo for the frontier, and reinforcements sent forward to Wady Halfa.

23. The first through train from Southern Cross (South Australia) to Coolgardie (Western Australia) arrived with the Governor and Premier of the former colony.

— Prince Henri d'Orleans' visit to President Faure gave great offence to various members of the Orleanist family and their supporters.

— Pending the construction of a telegraph, a camel post organised between Sarras and Akasheh, a distance of fifty-five miles.

— The transport of 2,500 troops with full arms and equipment to Assouan from Balliana, a distance of 300 miles, effected by Messrs. Thomas Cook's agency in fifty hours.

24. Rev. Dr. Alexander enthroned in Armagh Cathedral as Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland.

— Mr. Goschen, as President of the British Economic Association, took the chair at the annual dinner, which was attended by M. Léon Say and Prof. Brentano.

24. In the House of Commons the first of the six bills embodying the principle of purchase by the London County Council of the London Water Companies rejected by 287 to 125 votes.

25. At Ottawa, in view of a continuous sitting of the Dominion Parliament, many members had camp beds and cots brought into the Parliament House.

— It was reported that Russia had categorically refused her consent to the employment of the Egyptian reserve fund for the purposes of the Soudan expedition.

— The Matabele in the Matoppo Hills suddenly rose in insurrection against the white settlers, of whom they killed seven, whilst others were forced to retire to Buluwayo for protection.

26. The annual meeting of the National Federal Association held at Huddersfield under the presidency of Dr. Spence Watson, when the relations between the committee and the parliamentary Whips and leaders were discussed and approved. Lord Rosebery subsequently addressed a large meeting, in which he dealt with current politics, but made no recital of a Liberal programme.

— In the Chamber of Deputies the income tax proposals of the Government carried after six different alternatives had been raised, but declined by the Government, which on each occasion obtained a majority of sixteen votes.

— The Commissioners of the Egyptian Debt agreed by four votes to two (France and Russia) to advance 500,000*l.* from the reserve fund for the expedition to Dongola. A protest was subsequently lodged with the Mixed Tribunals against this disposal of the reserve fund.

27. In the House of Commons Mr. A. J. Balfour announced that H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge had declined to allow the proposal for a special pension in respect of his services as Commander-in-Chief to be submitted to the House in view of the opposition announced by the ex-Secretary of State for War.

— The Inter-University Athletic Sports at Queen's Club resulted in the victory of Cambridge in five contests—the one mile race, 4 min. 29½ sec.; putting the weight, 38 ft. 2 in.; quarter mile race, 49½ sec.; throwing the hammer, 107 ft. 7 in.; and long jump, 22 ft. 7 in.; and of Oxford in four—100 yards' race, 10½ sec.; hurdle race, 120 yards, 16½ sec.; high jump, 5 ft. 1½ in.; and three mile race, 15 min. 12 sec.

— The Grand National Steeplechase at Liverpool won by a complete outsider, Mr. W. H. Walker's The Soarer, aged, 9 st. 13 lb. (Mr. D. Campbell). Twenty-eight started.

28. The University Boat Race, rowed in a storm of sleet and rain, won by Oxford by two-fifths of a length after an exciting struggle, during which Cambridge led for the greater part of the way, and as far as Barnes Bridge. The following were the crews, with their correct weights:—

OXFORD.	ST. LB.	CAMBRIDGE.	ST. LB.
J. J. de Knoop, New College (bow)	11 1½	T. B. Hope, Trinity Hall (bow)	11 1
C. K. Philips, New College	- 12 5½	H. A. Game, First Trinity	- 12 6
E. C. Sherwood, Magdalen	- 12 12	D. Pennington, Caius	- 12 6
C. D. Burnell, Magdalen	- 13 10	R. Y. Bonsey, Lady Margaret	- 12 10
E. R. Balfour, University	- 13 6	W. A. Bieber, Trinity Hall	- 12 12
R. Carr, Magdalen	- 12 8½	T. J. G. Duncanson, Emmanuel	13 11
W. E. Crum, New College	- 12 3	A. S. Bell, Trinity Hall	- 11 13
H. Gold, Magdalen (stroke)	- 11 5½	W. J. Fernie, Trinity Hall (stroke)	11 13
H. Pechell, Brasenose (cox)	- 7 13½	T. R. Paget-Tomlinson, Trinity Hall (cox)	- 8 2½

28. Mr. Gladstone travelled by the first train on the line connecting Liverpool and the Wirral district, and afterwards spoke at a luncheon, proposing the health of Sir E. Watkins.

— The French Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Berthelot, resigned in consequence of the attack made upon his management of the Soudan question.

— The Church of St. Sauveur at Lille, one of the oldest remaining buildings and attached to an asylum, totally destroyed by fire, and eight persons burnt to death.

30. After an interval of 400 years the Pope reassumed authority over the Coptic Church by the re-establishment of the Catholic Patriarchate of Alexandria, to which post Bishop Kyrillos Macarius was appointed, and by the consecration of two bishops for Upper and Lower Egypt.

— The country round Buluwayo for a considerable distance reported to be in a state of insurrection, the Matabele having seized strong positions on the Matoppo Hills and driven back several parties of British settlers.

31. The financial statement for the year showed that the revenue paid into the Exchequer exceeded that of the previous twelve months by 7,290,000*l.*, or nearly 6,000,000*l.* in excess of the Budget Estimate.

— In the House of Commons the Vice-President of the Council (Sir J. Gorst) introduced the Education Bill of the Government, which was described as a great measure of decentralisation.

— Osman Digna, with a large force, reported to be advancing towards Sinkat in order to threaten Suakin. On the same day a British force unexpectedly attacked by the Ilorins at Odo Ofin, in the Toruba country in the Hinterland of Lagos.

APRIL.

1. Two serious fires took place in London; one at a cabinetmaker's extensive premises in Leonard Street, Finsbury, and the other in a large manufacturer's building in Whitecross Street, City. In both cases much damage was done.

— The Transvaal Government addressed a telegram to the High Commissioner at Cape Town offering to allow its burghers to proceed to Matabeleland to protect women and children if circumstances required.

— The second portion of the petition in connection with the election for St. George's-in-the-East concluded on the fortieth day from the

opening, when the judges declared that Mr. Benn had disqualified himself by his acts from claiming the seat.

2. In the Chamber of Deputies, the Ministry having forced on a discussion on the Egyptian question, M. Bourgeois defended the action of the French Government, and ultimately obtained an order of the day expressing confidence by 309 to 213 votes.

— The final and corrected returns of the census taken throughout the German Empire in the previous December showed the total population to be 53,244,503,—an increase of 1·14 per cent. since the previous census.

3. The French Senate by 155 to 85 votes passed a vote of censure upon M. Bourgeois' Ministry and its action in foreign affairs, especially those of Egypt.

— The passengers and crew of a British ship reached Gibraltar in a terrible condition, having been seriously maltreated and their ship having been plundered and all food and water removed before she was turned adrift by Riff pirates.

— In consequence of the prolonged drought it was found necessary to establish relief works in various parts of the North-west Provinces of India.

4. The new National Portrait Gallery, erected at the cost of Mr. Alexander on the site given by the Government, opened without any ceremonial.

— The three English-speaking Cardinals of Baltimore, Armagh and Westminster, issued a joint appeal to "all who hear their voice," to co-operate in bringing about a permanent tribunal of arbitration among English-speaking races.

-- The International Football Match, association rules, played at Glasgow, resulted in Scotland two goals against one by England.

5. The first ceremony in connection with the Olympic Games at Athens was the unveiling by the Crown Prince of a statue of M. Averoff, at whose cost the ancient Stadium has been restored.

-- The South Kensington and Bethnal Green Museums opened for the first time on Sunday under the resolution of the House of Commons.

6. The Metropolitan Volunteers, numbering about 25,000, took part in manœuvres at various places in the southern districts from Canterbury to Southampton, the majority having been assembled several days previously.

— At Washington, the House of Representatives adopted by 244 to 27 votes the resolutions already adopted by the Senate, recognising Cuba's belligerency, and offering the good offices of the United States for the recognition of Cuban independence.

— A royal decree signed by the King of Italy instituting a new form of government for Sicily, placing the whole civil government in the hands of a royal commissioner.

— An accident happened to the first train descending the Snowdon Railway. The engine having got out of gear dashed off the line and over a precipice. The driver and stoker jumped off in time; the rest

of the train was brought to a standstill. A second train descending ran into the first in the fog, but only a few persons were hurt, one fatally, by leaving the first train before it had been fully stopped.

7. The new Royal Observatory for Scotland, erected on Blackford Hill, Edinburgh, formally opened by Lord Balfour, the Secretary for Scotland, who referred to the munificence of the Earl of Crawford, who had presented a large telescope and other instruments of great value.

— The Matabele made several attacks upon the troops detached to defend Buluwayo, and several officers and men were wounded in these engagements.

— The Italian forces, having defeated the Dervishes at Moiram, succeeded in relieving Kassala from its besiegers.

8. At the Court of the Landdrost at Pretoria, the members of the Johannesburg Reform Committee committed for trial on the charge of high treason.

— The Dutch after a lengthened period of inactivity resumed military operations against the Atchinese. After considerable resistance, involving some loss, the Dutch troops relieved their two outlying forts, which were besieged by the natives.

— A congress of German nobility, assembled at Berlin, decided that the refusal to fight a duel, if based on honourable grounds, in no way tainted the honour of the person concerned.

9. The Conference of the National Union of Teachers, representing 36,000 teachers, met at Brighton, under the presidency of Mr. Macnamara, and after four days passed a series of resolutions with regard to the Government Education Bill. At the close of the meeting the Duke and Duchess of York attended and received 9,000*l.* collected for the benefit of the Benevolent Fund.

— Mr. Gardner Williams, general manager of the De Beers Company, committed for trial at Kimberley on the charge of having illegally conveyed arms into the Transvaal.

— The Pope addressed through Cardinal Rampolla a telegram to the editor of the *Daily Chronicle*, expressing his approval of the establishment of a permanent tribunal of arbitration for English-speaking nations.

10. At the Olympic Games the prize most coveted by the Greeks was that founded by M. Bréal of the Académie Française, in memory of the Athenian courier who brought the news of the defeat of the Persians from Marathon—a distance of twenty-six and a half miles—and fell dead on his arrival. The first three places in the race were won by Greeks; the winner being a young peasant named Louis, from the village of Amarusi, whose time was two hours fifty-eight minutes.

— A Red Cross expedition consisting of several officers, thirty doctors, and fifty nurses left St. Petersburg for Abyssinia with much ceremony.

— The French Government issued orders to suppress the publication in Paris of the organ of the young Turkish party, and to expel from

France the editor, Ahmed Riza, formerly Inspector of Education in Turkey. The latter order, however, was subsequently rescinded.

11. At Ottawa the Dominion House of Commons adjourned at midnight after an uninterrupted sitting of 129 hours, spent in opposing the Manitoba Schools Bill of the Government.

— Herr von Schrader, a High Court official at Potsdam, died from a pistol shot received in a duel with Herr von Kotze, whom he had accused in connection with certain scandalous and anonymous letters.

— The German Emperor arrived at Venice in his yacht from Palermo, and was cordially received by King Humbert and the Venetians.

12. After an interval of two months, two men (ex-convicts) were arrested at Bath on the charge of having murdered a gentleman at Muswell Hill under very brutal circumstances.

13. In the House of Commons, the Secretary for Ireland, Mr. G. Balfour, in a speech of four hours, explained the leading features of the Irish Land Bill, which was read a first time.

— A duel took place in Paris between the Prince de Sagan and M. Hermant, a dramatic writer, in consequence of certain supposed allusions in a play, "La Meute." Two shots were exchanged, but without results.

— A colliery explosion occurred in the Brancepeth Pit, Durham, when twenty-seven men and boys were in the mine, of whom only five were rescued alive.

14. The German Emperor and Empress, after two days' stay at Venice, arrived at Vienna, where they were warmly greeted by the populace and cordially received by the Emperor.

— Upwards of 40,000 bushels of wheat exported from Canada found a ready market in Australia, where a scarcity of corn existed.

— At Ottawa a motion adopted by the Senate in favour of an Imperial Customs Union on a free-trade basis.

15. A grand review of 20,000 men of all arms and nationalities included in the Austrian Army, under the immediate command of the Emperor Francis Joseph, held at Vienna in honour of the German Emperor.

— The Olympic Games at Athens brought to a conclusion by the distribution by the King in the Stadium of the prizes, which for the most part consisted of branches cut from the olive trees of Olympus, and medals.

— A large impi of Matabele gathered round Buluwayo, almost completely investing it on all sides.

16. In the House of Commons the Chancellor of the Exchequer produced his Budget for the current year, showing an estimated income of 101,755,000*l.*, and expenditure of 100,047,000*l.*, exclusive of sums payable in aid of local taxation.

— Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, after being *fêted* by the Sultan, left Constantinople for Odessa *en route* to St. Petersburg.

16. A sharp encounter took place a few miles from Suakin between the Egyptian troops and the Dervishes under Osman Digna, in which the latter were beaten off with considerable loss.

17. Of the eighty-six Departmental Councils in France, fifty-eight passed resolutions condemning the income tax scheme proposed by the Government, and only seven adopted it in its entirety.

— The Franco-Scottish Society, representing the higher university education of the two countries, held a congress in Paris, when the Scotch visitors were received with much distinction at the Sorbonne.

— The Dutch troops in Atchin, after an exhausting campaign, abandoned their most advanced posts, which were subsequently burnt by the Atchinese.

18. Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria arrived at St. Petersburg and was received by the Czar's uncle, the Grand Duke Vladimir, and conducted to apartments in the Winter Palace.

— Dr. Lueger elected Burgomaster of Vienna for the fourth time, receiving 96 out of the 138 votes recorded by the newly elected Municipal Council.

— On the outskirts of Lisbon the owner of a factory and his workmen were blown to pieces by a bomb loaded with dynamite and nails.

19. A collision took place in Dublin Bay between the barque *Firth of Solway* and the steamship *Marsden*. The latter sunk almost immediately. Only nine out of twenty-four persons were saved.

20. A Bimetallist Congress, attended by representatives of the chief European States and of the United States, met at Brussels.

— The marriage of the Princess Alexandria of Coburg with the Hereditary Prince of Hohenlohe Langenberg, solemnised at Coburg in the presence of the German Emperor and Empress and other distinguished personages.

— The subject of duelling brought before the Reichstag by the Centre party, who moved a resolution deprecating the practice, and calling upon Parliament to intervene. In the absence of the Imperial Chancellor, a reply on his behalf was made to the effect that an inquiry was being made.

21. The French Senate, after a short debate, decided by 171 to 90 votes to postpone granting the Madagascar credits until a Cabinet enjoying the confidence of both Chambers should be formed. M. Bourgeois subsequently waited on the President, and announced his intention of summoning the Chamber and to notify his resignation to that body.

— The body of M. Tricoupis arrived at Athens from Cannes, and was visited by the King and a continuous stream of persons of all classes.

22. Mr. J. Chamberlain entertained at a grand banquet given by the Constitutional Club, at which the Earl of Kintore presided.

22. The final match for the Rackets Amateur Championship played at the Queen's Club, West Kensington, and decided in favour of the holder, Mr. H. F. Foster, by three sets to one.

— Baron von Hammerstein, formerly leader of the Conservative party and editor of the *Kreuz Zeitung*, sentenced to three years' penal servitude and a fine, for fraud, forgery and embezzlement.

— At the Epsom Spring Meeting the Great Metropolitan Stakes, 2½ miles, won by Mr. W. M. Redfern's Fatherless, 6 yrs., 7 st. 8 lbs. (J. Woodburn). Fifteen started. The City and Suburban Handicap, 1½ miles, by Mr. B. J. Barnato's Worcester, 6 yrs., 8 st. 12 lbs. (M. Cannon). Sixteen started.

23. The American Ambassador, Mr. Bayard, attended the Shakespeare celebrations at Stratford-upon-Avon, and unveiled a memorial window placed in the church by American subscribers.

— M. Bourgeois, having called the Chamber of Deputies together, announced the resignation of his Cabinet in consequence of the adverse votes of the Senate.

— The funeral of M. Tricoupis took place at Athens amid universal mourning, the procession to the cemetery being headed by the King and Queen and attended by 50,000 persons.

24. A new order of knighthood, to be known as "the Victorian Order," and to be conferred as a mark of high distinction, instituted by the Queen.

— At the trial of the Johannesburg Reform Committee at Pretoria, Messrs. Rhodes, Phillips and Farrar pleaded guilty to high treason on the first count of the indictment, and the other prisoners *læsis majestatis*, but without hostile intent.

25. The Matabele insurgents, numbering several thousands, attacked a body of troopers about five miles from Buluwayo, and after an obstinate struggle were completely defeated with much loss.

— President Krüger's reply to Mr. Chamberlain's despatch arrived, declining the invitation to England to discuss internal reforms in the Transvaal.

— Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria arrived in Paris from St. Petersburg, having travelled across Germany *incognito*. He was received with great official distinction by the President and ministers.

27. Sir M. Bowell tendered his resignation of the Premiership of the Dominion Government, and Sir Charles Tupper was entrusted by the Viceroy with the formation of a new Cabinet.

— The demarcation of the north-west frontier of India, after two years' work, was concluded, and the boundaries of British, Persian, Afghan and Russian influence from the Pamirs to the Persian Gulf settled.

— Dr. Lueger, the Burgomaster-elect of Vienna, received in audience by the Emperor of Austria. He declared that, from motives of patriotism, he was ready to renounce his post.

27. Prince Christian, on leaving Paddington Station and while crossing Praed Street, knocked down by a cab, but without receiving serious injury.

— At the trial of the Reform leaders at Pretoria sentence of death was pronounced on the four principal leaders, including Colonel Rhodes, and fines of 2,000*l.* each, coupled with imprisonment for two years and banishment for three subsequent years, passed upon fifty-nine others.

28. M. Méline, the leader of the Protectionist Tariff party in France, entrusted by M. Faure with the formation of a Ministry.

— An accident occurred to the Bombay mail train at a point south of Ghaziabad. A box of fireworks exploded in a third-class carriage, killing three persons and dangerously injuring eleven others.

— The Supreme Court of Appeal at Boma acquitted Major Lothaire on the charge of hanging Mr. Stokes, after an irregular trial, for inciting a native chief to civil war.

29. Lord Salisbury presided at the Primrose League Grand Habitation held at the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, and reviewed the political situation.

— The Queen left Nice, returning to England direct round Paris to Cherbourg.

— At Newmarket the Two Thousand Guineas Stakes won easily by the favourite, Mr. L. de Rothschild's St. Frusquin (T. Loates). Seven started. The One Thousand Guineas by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' Thais (J. Watts). Nineteen started.

— The cipher correspondence between the Chartered Land Company and the Johannesburg Committee published at Pretoria.

30. In the House of Commons the second reading of the Agricultural Rating Bill passed by 333 to 156 after the closure had been voted.

— A strike in the London building trade for increased rates, affecting about 17,000 men, ordered by the various unions, except the bricklayers', and those men employed in contracts for public buildings.

— An explosion occurred in the Peckfield Colliery, Wortley, near Leeds, by which sixty-two lives were lost.

— Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria arrived at Berlin, and was received in full state and entertained by the Emperor at Potsdam.

— In the Chamber of Deputies M. Méline's new Cabinet, after a declaration of its intended policy, received a vote of confidence by 299 against 256 votes.

MAY.

1. Socialist and labour demonstrations took place in several continental capitals and towns, passing off in all parts peaceably, except at Vienna, where there was a collision between the people and the military.

— The polling for North Aberdeen resulted in the return of Captain Pirie (R.) by 2,909 against Mr. Tom Mann (Lab.), who received 2,479 votes.

1. Industrial and national exhibitions opened at Berlin and Geneva ; that at the former being especially intended to illustrate the industrial and commercial progress of the country since the war.

— The Shah of Persia shot when entering the Mosque of Shah Abdul Azim, and died almost immediately. The murderer, Mirza Mahomed Reza, had been more than once imprisoned for treasonable practices.

2. The application by the French Government for the extradition of Dr. Cornelius Herz in connection with the Panama scandals refused by the chief magistrate at Bow Street.

— The Hungarian Millennial Exhibition at Buda-Pesth opened in great state by the Emperor-King.

— The bi-centenary of the foundation of the Royal Academy of Arts at Berlin celebrated in the rotunda of the old Museum.

4. The accession of the new Shah of Persia marked by disturbances in various parts of the country, and the Jews threatened at Shiraz and elsewhere.

— The Lord Advocate for Scotland, Sir. C. Pearson, M.P., appointed a Judge of Session in the room of Lord Rutherford Clark.

— The opening of the session of the Volksraad took place in the presence of a large crowd, assembled to greet President Krüger.

— The Grand Duke and Duchess George of Saxe Meiningen and their suite stopped near Frascati by highwaymen, to whom the Grand Duke flung his purse, and was allowed to proceed with his companions.

5. The marriage of Princess Louise of Denmark with Prince Frederick of Schaumburg-Lippe took place at Copenhagen.

— Earl Grey, the Joint-Administrator of Matabeleland, having reached Buluwayo, held a review of the troops assembled, and declared the town to be "as safe as London."

— At the meeting of the London County Council the financial statement of the current year was presented, showing on a rate of 1s. 3d. in the pound a revenue of 3,566,433*l.*, and an estimated expenditure of 3,379,447*l.*

6. At a meeting of the Vienna Municipality, Herr Strobach, a clerical Anti-Semite, elected Burgomaster by 94 out of 136 votes. Dr. Lueger was elected Vice-Burgomaster.

— The Chester Cup won by Mr. Dobell's *The Rush*, 4 yrs., 8 st. 5 lbs. (Madden). Eleven started.

— The clergyman of the London Evangelical Mission, with his wife and son, murdered at Sfaks in Tunis.

7. A rising of the Horeros and Hottentots in South-west Africa against the German authorities led to several collisions between the natives and Colonial troops.

8. After a drought extending over eighty days, during which no rain fell in any cultivated parts of Spain, the relics of the most important

churches brought out, and processions with prayers made in the chief towns.

8. In the House of Commons the South African debate opened by Sir Wm. Harcourt, who brought serious charges against the Chartered Company and Mr. Cecil Rhodes.

— In the cricket match between Yorkshire and Warwickshire, played at Birmingham, the former made 887 in their first innings, the highest total on record in a first-class county match.

9. In the Italian Chamber, after five days' debate, the evacuation of Adigrat and the general policy of the Government in Abyssinia approved by 270 to 133 votes.

— At the Kempton Park Spring Meeting the Jubilee Stakes, value 3,000*l.*, won by Mr. T. Worton's Victor Wild, 6 yrs., 9 st. 7 lbs. (Bradford). Fifteen started.

— Three Indian regiments and a mountain battery, numbering about 2,000 men in all, ordered to embark at Bombay for Suakin to act as garrison at the later place.

11. The Duke and Duchess of Connaught left London to represent the Queen at the Czar's coronation at Moscow.

— Sir Jacobus de Wet, British Agent in Pretoria, resigned his post.

— A serious conflict took place at Buda-Pesth between the police and a number of Socialist workmen, in the course of which upwards of twenty persons were seriously injured.

— The Spanish Chambers opened by the Queen Regent, who in the speech from the throne declared that although the moment was inopportune for the introduction of reforms in the government of Cuba, the appeal of the loyal inhabitants for local autonomy would not be overlooked.

12. In the House of Commons, after the closure had been applied, the second reading of the Education Bill carried by 423 to 156 votes, a large number of Irish Nationalists supporting the Government.

— Sir W. O. Priestly, M.D., returned unopposed for Edinburgh and St. Andrews Universities, in succession to Sir Charles Pearson, late Lord Advocate.

— The Protestant Mission House at Kiang-yin looted and burnt by the Chinese natives, but the missionaries escaped.

13. General Joubert, who had commanded the Boers at Majuba Hill, elected Vice-President of the Transvaal.

— An anti-Semitic demonstration combined with anti-Magyar cries took place at the Vienna University, and the authorities seemed powerless to restore order for a considerable time.

— At Newmarket the Newmarket Stakes of 3,500*l.* for three-year-olds won by the favourite, Mr. Leopold Rothschild's Galeazzo, 9 st. (T. Loates). Fifteen started.

14. A new Army Bill involving the immediate additional expenditure of 7,500,000 marks introduced into the German Reichstag. It proposed

that the "fourth" battalions created by the Army Bill of 1893 should be paired into eighty-six full battalions.

14. An alarming explosion took place on board the French ironclad *Amiral Duperré* whilst lying in Toulon Harbour. A dynamite cartridge exploded in consequence of the overheating of pipes leading from the boilers.

15. The tennis amateur championship won by Sir Edward Grey, M.P., against Mr. H. L. Crawley, by three sets to two.

— It was officially announced from Berlin that the German Emperor never had any intention of visiting Cowes this year.

— The Queen held at Windsor Castle a private investiture of the knights of several orders, on whom distinctions had been bestowed.

— A cyclone swept over Sherman, Texas, completely destroying the western portion of the town, inhabited chiefly by negroes, of whom above 120 were killed. Almost simultaneously a waterspout burst over Howe, in the same State, causing the death of eight people.

16. President Faure met the Dowager-Empress of Russia at Frouard and travelled with her to the German frontier station of Pagny-sur-Moselle. The place of meeting had been kept absolutely secret, and no officials were present on either side.

-- At Marlborough House the Prince of Wales, on behalf of a large body of subscribers, presented to Lady Hallé (Madame Norman Neruda) in commemoration of the fiftieth year of her professional life a casket containing the title deeds of a domain at Asolo, near Treviso, in North Italy.

17. Further devastations caused by cyclones in the United States. The storm swept over Marshall and Nemaha counties, Kansas, destroying one-third of the houses of Seneca. In Paducah, Kentucky, and in the Indian reserves serious damage was also reported.

18. Prince Henry of Orleans delivered at a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society a lecture in English upon his recent discoveries on the Mekong.

— A manifesto issued in the form of a letter to the Duc d'Audiffret Pasquier from the Duc d'Orleans, in which the latter repudiated his distrust of universal suffrage and denied any incompatibility between monarchical and elective rights.

— Herr von Kotze sentenced to two years' imprisonment in a fortress on account of the duel in which Herr von Schrader met his death.

— The funeral of Mr. Grey, one of the Reform Committee prisoners at Johannesburg who had committed suicide, made the excuse for a great demonstration against the Transvaal Government.

19. The new Town Hall, Courts of Justice, and Free Library at Croydon opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales.

— The "new" Radical party, of which Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. Labouchere were the recognised leaders, issued a statement of its

policy, of which the chief aim was to be "the democratisation and devolution of Parliament."

19. At Berlin the prosecution of the forty-seven Socialist leaders ended in the acquittal of thirty-two members and the imposition of small fines upon the remainder, and the partial confirmation only of the dissolution decree.

20. The Queen's birthday honours included peerages for the Marquess of Granby, Mr. Edward Heneage, and Colonel Malcolm of Poltalloch.

— The Transvaal Government arrived at a decision with regard to fifty-nine prisoners charged with high treason and condemned to two years' imprisonment—a portion being released at once, and others being kept for three months, and others to renew requests for relief. The sentences of the four leaders condemned to death were temporarily commuted to imprisonment for fifteen years.

— A formal statement put forward by the leaders of the Non-conformist party that their alliance with the Irish Nationalists had ceased in view of the action of the latter on the second reading of the Education Bill.

— At the Paris Opera House the pulley of one of the balance-weights attached to the central chandelier gave way, and, breaking through the ceiling of the building, struck one of the upper galleries, killing one person and injuring half a dozen others.

21. Mr. Chamberlain, presiding at the South African dinner, expressed his regret that very little progress had been made towards the reconciliation of the Dutch and English races in South Africa.

— The Czar made his state entrance into Moscow accompanied by the Empress and Court. He was enthusiastically received all along the route.

— The two men, Milsom and Fowler, tried for the murder of Mr. Henry Smith at Muswell Hill on February 14, found guilty, and condemned to death. During the retirement of the jury Fowler made a furious attack upon Milsom in the dock, and was not overpowered until after a prolonged struggle.

22. The House of Commons, after a continuous sitting of twenty-two and a half hours and thirty-six divisions, passed the Agricultural Land Rating Bill through Committee.

— The great wheel at Earl's Court, with about sixty passengers, after a detention of fifteen hours, released about mid-day; the machinery by which the wheel was kept in motion having got out of gear. Each of the "prisoners" received 5*l.* as compensation.

— The Amateur Golf Championship decided at Sandwich in favour of Mr. F. E. Tait of Edinburgh (Black Watch).

23. Fenian disturbances, followed by fighting in the streets, occurred at Canea (Crete) between the Turkish and Christian population. The Turkish soldiers subsequently overthrew all restraint and poured through the streets, pillaging and massacring the Christian inhabitants.

25. The twenty-eighth annual Co-operative Congress, attended by upwards of 1,000 delegates, opened at Woolwich under the presidency of the Earl of Winchilsea.

— At Melun M. Bourgeois, the French ex-Premier, insisted upon the importance of a reform of the constitution in the sense of restricting or abolishing the powers of the Senate.

— The International Miners' Congress, attended by delegates representing over a million men, held at Aix-la-Chapelle, having refused to meet in Belgium, and elected Mr. Thomas Burt, M.P., president. The legal eight hours' day was voted by delegates representing 960,000 men, against 126,000 Northumberland and Durham miners.

— A railway bridge on the line to Victoria, British Columbia, collapsed without warning under the weight of a passing train, and upwards of sixty lives were lost.

26. After a week of gorgeous ceremonies the Czar, Nicholas II., formally crowned himself and the Czaritsa at Moscow with all possible pomp and circumstance. Having been anointed with the Holy Chrism they received the Sacrament, and after praying before the tombs of the Czar's ancestors, attended the coronation banquet. A general amnesty and remission of taxation was at once proclaimed.

— The force under Colonel Plumer despatched from Buluwayo defeated the Matabele insurgents in three separate encounters.

27. A cyclone of terrible violence swept over a portion of the State of Missouri, striking with special force the city of St. Louis. Buildings were overthrown, bridges broken up, and steamers driven from their moorings and sunk. The loss of life was estimated at nearly 500, and three times as many more were injured. The damage to property was almost incalculable, amounting to many millions of dollars. Many parts of the city were set on fire by lightning and by the electric wires suddenly breaking.

— The Victoria Theatre at Newport, Monmouthshire, totally destroyed by fire, which broke out some time after the conclusion of the evening's performance.

28. The Electoral Reform Bill, approved by the Austrian Reichsrath, passed the Chamber of Peers without debate.

— At a meeting of the French Academy to fill the *fauteuil* vacant by the death of Alexandre Dumas, M. Zola and M. Barboux were the chief competitors, but after several ballots neither obtained a decisive majority. M. Gaston Paris was elected to the *fauteuil* of M. Pasteur.

— In the Cape of Good Hope Assembly a motion for cancelling the charter of the South African Company rejected by 60 to 11 votes; and a resolution for obtaining an inquiry into the circumstances of the raid agreed to.

29. General Joubert and Dr. Leyds visited Bloemfontein to consult with the authorities of the Orange River Free State on the uniform arming of that State and the Transvaal.

30. Mr. Cecil Rhodes, having cleared the road from Groels of the numerous bodies of Matabele, arrived in safety at Buluwayo, and was received with great enthusiasm.

30. The coronation festivities at Moscow closed with a frightful disaster. An enormous crowd collected to receive gifts distributed at booths on a plain near the city. Before the arrival of the police at 5 A.M., the crowd became unmanageably large, and a rush was made at some of the booths. Upwards of 3,000 persons were crushed to death or seriously injured.

— In the Chamber of Deputies, the Foreign Minister, M. Hanotaux, submitted a bill declaring Madagascar and its dependent isles a French colony.

— All the prisoners detained at Pretoria, with the exception of four leaders and two others who refused to petition, liberated on condition that the fines imposed upon them should be paid.

JUNE.

1. A letter from Mr. Gladstone on the validity of English orders, supposed to have been addressed to Cardinal Rampolla, published by the instrumentality of the Archbishop of York.

— A serious riot occurred in Cairo, caused by the refusal of the Sheikhs of the El Azhar University to assist the officials in enforcing sanitary measures, or to admit a doctor to visit a cholera patient. The Governor of Cairo and others were wounded by the rioters, of whom 120 were arrested.

— The Italian Chamber by a large majority assented to the prosecution of General Baratieri.

2. The election in the Frome Division of Somerset, caused by the succession of Viscount Weymouth (C.) to the peerage, resulted in the return of Mr. J. E. Barlow (L.) by 5,062 votes, against 4,763 polled by Lord Alex. Thynne; and that for the Wick Burghs, caused by the retirement of Sir John Pender (U.), in the return of Mr. T. C. H. Hedderwick (L.) by 1,054 votes, against 842 given to Mr. W. C. Smith.

— At the annual banquet of the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris, Lord Dufferin referred to his approaching retirement, and dwelt upon international relations at some length.

3. The race for the Derby stakes at Epsom won by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' Persimmon (J. Watts), defeating the favourite, Mr. Leopold de Rothschild's St. Frusquin, by a neck. Eleven started. Time, 2 min. 42 sec.

— In consequence of the despatch of a large body of troops to Crete, the six embassies at Constantinople conveyed warnings to the Porte and Palace that the Turkish Government would be held responsible for any massacre of Christians.

— Marshal Martinez Campos, late Captain-General of Cuba, and General Bonero, Commandant of the Sixth Army Corps, were prevented from fighting a duel, arising out of political differences, by the arrival

on the ground of the Captain-General of Madrid, who put both combatants under nominal arrest.

4. At the Royal London Yacht Club regatta the German Emperor's new yacht *Meteor* came in first, defeating the Prince of Wales' *Britannia* by nearly two miles on a fifty-mile course. The yachts *Ailsa*, *Satanita*, and *Hester* also competed.

— The Upper House of the Northern Convocation held at York, after considering a report on the adaptation of the burial service to the practice of cremation, unanimously agreed that the time had not arrived for usefully discussing the question.

5. Abdullah Pasha, appointed Civil and Military Governor of Crete, with the object of restoring tranquillity to the island, formally installed at Canea.

— The Volksraad of the Orange Free State passed a resolution in favour of the Government assuming control of the railways.

— At Epsom the Oak Stakes won by Lord Derby's Canterbury Pilgrim (F. Rickaby), defeating the favourite, the Prince of Wales' Thais (J. Watts), by two lengths. Time, 2 min. 45½ sec. Eleven started.

— A drought which had lasted for upwards of six weeks and had extended over the United Kingdom and Ireland broke up with severe thunderstorms in various districts, causing much damage.

6. The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by their daughters, visited East London to open an industrial exhibition at the People's Palace, Mile-End Road.

— The Emperor of Austria, as King of Hungary, laid the foundation stone of a new wing to the Buda Hofburg.

— In a match from the Nore to Dover the German Emperor's *Meteor* again defeated the *Britannia*, by 9 min. 8 sec.

— The Egyptian troops under General Kitchener, having marched through the night from Akasheh, attacked the Dervishes at daybreak at Feshet, driving them out of their positions, with the loss of 900 killed and 500 prisoners.

— A large Matabele impi completely routed with severe loss by the troops under Sir F. Carrington.

7. At Barcelona a bomb was thrown into a religious procession entering the church of Santa Maria, killing eight persons and injuring fifty others.

8. The Hungarian Parliament occupied its new House for the first time, marking the chief ceremony of the Hungarian millennial celebration, and afterwards tendered its homage to the King in his palace at Buda.

— In the House of Commons the second reading of the Irish Land Bill agreed to without a division.

— The newly installed Shah of Persia held a solemn reception of the chief dignitaries of his kingdom, at the same time remitting in perpetuity all taxes on bread and meat throughout the country.

8. The mixed tribunal at Cairo, having declared itself competent, decided that the Egyptian Government should replace 350,000*l.* and all other sums advanced out of the Caisse and of the Debt, for the purposes of the Soudan expedition.

— Colonel Burn-Murdoch, after the defeat of the Dervishes at Feshet, pushed on rapidly and occupied Suarda, thirty miles farther up the Nile, after a slight resistance.

9. Three men, Fowler and Milsom convicted of the Muswell Hill murder, and Seaman of a double murder in Mile-End, hanged at Newgate; Mrs. Dyer, the Reading baby-farmer and murderer, sharing the same fate on the following morning.

— At the meeting of the Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the Empire held at Grocers' Hall, Mr. Chamberlain made an important speech on the fiscal bonds of federation.

— A grand national exhibition inaugurated at Nijni-Novgorod by the Minister of Finance, acting on behalf of the Czar.

10. The Prince of Wales presided at a dinner in aid of the funds of Guy's Hospital, and, in proposing the toast of the evening, was able to announce that 151,000*l.* had been subscribed out of 500,000*l.* required.

— The Institution of Naval Architects, under the presidency of the Earl of Hopetoun, cordially received by the authorities and people of Hamburg.

— The Porte communicated to the Embassies at Constantinople a telegram from Abdullah Pasha announcing that perfect order and tranquillity reigned in Crete. At the same time he requested further reinforcements.

11. The Transvaal Executive decided to commute the sentences passed upon the four Reform leaders, and ordered their release on the payment of a fine of 25,000*l.* each, or fifteen years' banishment in default. The fines were paid, but Colonel Rhodes declined to sign a pledge not to interfere with the Transvaal, and was consequently banished.

— A statue of Earl Granville, K.G., by Mr. Hamo Thornycroft, R.A., placed in the central lobby of the Houses of Parliament, and unveiled by Lord Kimberley.

12. In the match between the Australians and Marylebone Club at Lords the former, in their first innings, obtained only 18 runs (Giffen absent); five wickets being taken by Pougher in three overs, and no runs. In their second innings the Australians scored 183 runs, but were unable to escape defeat in a single innings by 18 runs.

— The members of the Institution of Naval Architects received by the German Emperor at Potsdam and hospitably entertained.

— Professor Goldwin Smith, having learnt that his acceptance of the honorary degree of LL.D. from the Toronto University would lead to a display of political opposition, declined to accept the intended honour.

13. President Krüger received in Pretoria a large deputation from public bodies in South Africa, who thanked him for his clemency towards the Reform leaders.

13. At the Royal Southern Yacht Club Regatta at Southampton, over a forty-five mile course, the *Britannia*, on her time allowance, was awarded the first prize, although the *Meteor* came in first by 1 min. 19 sec.

— The seamen and marines of the British squadron lying at Civita Vecchia were warmly received by the Roman people and civic authorities. On the following day the Pope invited the Catholic members of the fleet, and celebrated mass in the Sisters' Chapel, subsequently entertaining them for the rest of the day.

15. A meeting of the Unionist party held at the Foreign Office, under the presidency of Mr. A. J. Balfour, to consider the state of public business and the Government proposal to adjourn from August to January.

— Dr. Jameson and five of his principal adherents committed for trial in connection with the raid on the Transvaal; nine others, who had been charged with them, were discharged.

— The jubilee of Lord Kelvin (Sir William Thomson), as Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Glasgow, celebrated in that city. Congratulatory telegrams were received from all parts of the world.

— The ship *Virgo*, conveying Herr Andrée's North Pole balloon expedition, sailed from Tromsø.

— A tidal wave of unusual size, 80 feet in height, burst upon 300 miles of the north-east coast of Japan, near the port of Sendai. The majority of the population were asleep at the time, and upwards of 30,000 persons perished and more than 5,000 houses were swept away.

16. The Supreme Court of New Zealand having refused to sanction the sale of debts due to the Colonial Bank of New Zealand by Mr. Ward, the Colonial Treasurer, the Premier announced Mr. Ward's resignation of his post.

— The Castle Line steamship *Drummond Castle*, homeward bound from Natal and Cape Town, struck on a reef of the Ile de Molène off Ushant, and of 143 passengers and 104 officers and crew only three persons escaped.

17. The Chinese Viceroy Li Hung Chang, and Marshal Yamataga the Japanese commander-in-chief, returning from Moscow, stopped at Berlin, the former however being made the object of chief attention by the Emperor and his Ministry.

— The Bishop of Peterborough delivered at the Sheldonian Theatre at Oxford the Romanes Lecture, taking for his subject "English National Character."

— Mr. A. Usher of Edinburgh announced through the Lord Provost his intention of building for that city a town hall at the cost of 100,000*l*.

18. The Republican Convention, held at St. Louis, nominated at the first ballot Mr. M'Kinley as its candidate for the Presidency by 661½ votes against less than 300 distributed among five candidates. The free

coinage plank was rejected by 814½ to 108½ votes, upon which the majority of the Silverites withdrew.

18. A monument to the German Emperor Wilhelm I., erected by the Veterans' League on the Kyffhäuser Hill, in the Thuringian Forest (the site of the Barbarossa legend), unveiled by the Emperor Wilhelm II.

— A new rising of Mashona natives took place between Umtali and Fort Salisbury, three white men and several friendly natives being murdered.

19. At Ascot the principal races were thus decided:—

Ascot Stakes.—M. de St. Alary's Arlequin, 3 yrs., 6 st. 5 lbs. (Ferris).
Eight ran.

Prince of Wales' Stakes.—Duke of Westminster's Shaddock, 8 st. 3 lbs. (M. Cannon). Six ran.

Gold Vase.—Mr. L. Brassey's Pride, 4 yrs., 9 st. (Bradford). Five ran.

Royal Hunt Cup.—Lord Rosebery's Quarrel, 5 yrs., 7 st. 11 lbs. (Fagan).
Seventeen ran.

Gold Cup.—Mr. Hamar Bass' Love Wisely, 3 yrs., 7 st. 7 lbs. (S. Loates).
Six ran.

Hardwicke Stakes.—Duke of Westminster's Shaddock, 3 yrs., 8 st. 5 lbs. (M. Cannon). Eight ran.

Alexandra Plate.—Mr. L. Brassey's Pride, 4 yrs., 9 st. (Bradford). Five ran.

— The State Secretary of the Transvaal Republic addressed two telegrams for transmission to the Imperial Government urging the prosecution of Mr. Cecil Rhodes, Mr. A. Beit, and Mr. Rutherford Harris for complicity in the Jameson raid.

20. A statue of the Queen, executed by Mr. Hamo Thornycroft, R.A., erected in the quadrangle of the Royal Exchange, unveiled by the Lord Mayor on the fifty-ninth anniversary of her accession.

— A serious revolt having broke out among the Druses of Lebanon, severe losses were inflicted upon the Turkish troops sent to suppress it.

— A strike of factory hands at twenty cotton mills, involving about 40,000 persons, commenced at St. Petersburg.

— A British Government official, in charge of labourers making a road from Barama to the Cunyuni River, arrested by the Venezuelans, but released within a few days by order of the President.

22. In the House of Commons Mr. Balfour, on behalf of the Government, announced the withdrawal of the Education Bill.

— A destructive fire broke out in the goods depôt of the Great Western Railway at Paddington, and consumed a large amount of property.

— The district tribunal at Kazan, after proceedings lasting over four years, acquitted seven persons accused of decapitating a peasant, their object being to offer sacrifice to idols, the worship of which, mingled with Christianity, survived in the province of Vyalka.

23. At the Central Criminal Court the grand jury returned a true bill in the case of Dr. Jameson and his five associates charged under the Foreign Enlistment Act.

— The Canadian elections, held throughout the Dominion, resulted in a decisive victory for the Liberals, nearly all the leading Conservatives

especially in Lower Canada, being defeated. The total numbers were—Liberals, 113; Conservatives, 89; Independents, 11.

23. The Archbishop of Canterbury addressed, on behalf of the English Church, a letter of thanks to the Abbé Le Jeune, *curé* at Molène, for the kindness of his parishioners to those wrecked in the *Drummond Castle*.

24. At the Oxford Commemoration the chief recipients of honorary degrees were the American Ambassador (Mr. Bayard), Mr. J. Chamberlain, and Mr. John Morley.

— The first of the series of matches between the Australians and England Eleven played at Lords cricket ground, and, after two and a half days, ended in the defeat of the Australians by six wickets. Australia—First innings, 53; second, 347 runs. England—First innings, 292; second, 111 for four wickets.

— The directors of the North-Eastern Railway decided to issue books of coupons for 1,000 miles of travel in any direction within their system at the rate of five guineas (first class). The coupons were to be available for the holder and his family, and for twelve months from the date of issue.

25. The annual match at Winchester, between the Elevens of Eton and Winchester, resulted in the victory of the latter by eight wickets. The scores were as follows:—

WINCHESTER.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Mr. J. T. Weatherby, c. Browning, b. Mitchell	22	c Mitchell, b. Allen	19
Mr. E. B. Noel, c. Hutchison, b. Ward	61	c. Hutchison, b. Allen	24
Mr. A. L. Gibson, b. Mitchell	0	not out	5
Mr. R. L. G. Irving, c. Hollins, b. Allen	23	not out	7
Mr. G. H. Rowe (capt.), b. Bosanquet	82		
Mr. E. C. Lee, b. Bosanquet	6		
Mr. F. H. Latham, c. Browning, b. Legard	0		
Mr. R. A. Williams, not out	11		
Mr. C. S. Awdry, b. Mitchell	0		
Mr. A. B. Reynolds, st. Browning, b. Mitchell	2		
Mr. R. C. Hunter, b. Bosanquet	0		
Byes, 2; l.-b., 3; w., 1	6	Bye, 1	1
	<hr/> 213		<hr/> 56

ETON.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Mr. A. D. Legard, c. and b. Gibson	2	b. Lee	16
Mr. C. K. Hutchison, c. Noel, b. Gibson	13	c. Reynolds, b. Latham	37
Mr. H. C. Pilkington, run out	3	run out	2
Mr. C. T. Allen (capt.), b. Latham	15	st. Reynolds, b. Gibson	2
Mr. F. H. Mitchell, b. Latham	0	b. Williams	4
Mr. F. H. Hollins, b. Williams	18	c. Gibson, b. Williams	0
Mr. R. Lubbock, not out	36	b. Williams	37
Mr. B. J. T. Bosanquet, b. Williams	0	not out	29
Mr. C. H. Browning, c. Gibson, b. Williams	9	c. Gibson, b. Hunter	4
Hon. G. Ward, c. and b. Williams	0	c. Rowe, b. Latham	0
Mr. G. L. Tryon, b. Lee	25	c. Lee, b. Latham	6
Byes, 2; l.-b., 2; w., 1	5	Bye, 1; l.-b., 2; w., 1	4
	<hr/> 126		<hr/> 141

— The whole of Rhodesia reported in revolt, the natives having invested Fort Salisbury, Charter, and other important centres, in which the outlying settlers had taken refuge.

25. At a vestry meeting of the parish of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, a resolution was carried, by 14 to 6 votes, declaring the presentation of the living by the Bishop of London to the Suffragan Bishop of Marlborough to be a scandal.

26. The Prince and Princess of Wales arrived at Aberystwyth, where the Prince was installed as Chancellor of the University of Wales. At the luncheon which followed his health was proposed by Mr. Gladstone.

— The directors of the British South Africa Company accepted the resignations of Mr. Cecil Rhodes and Mr. A. Beit, and of their secretary in South Africa, Mr. Rutherford Harris.

27. The fiftieth anniversary of the repeal of the Corn Laws celebrated by a dinner of the Cobden Club at Greenwich, at which Mr. L. H. Courtney, M.P., presided and was chief speaker.

— Arton, who had been extradited from England after a prolonged evasion of justice, tried in Paris, and sentenced to six years' hard labour for embezzlement.

— The Cunard steamer *Umbria*, outward bound for New York, struck on a sunken coal barge at the harbour entrance, but was floated off at the next high tide.

— Baron von Berlepsch, Prussian Minister of Commerce, who was understood to be favourable to a policy of social reform, resigned his office, and succeeded by Herr Brefeld.

29. Pope Leo XIII. addressed an encyclical on Christian unity to the bishops of the Catholic Church, laying down the conditions upon which the reunion of the Churches was possible.

— The United States Ambassador (Mr. Bayard) laid the memorial stone of a Congregational Church erected at Gainsborough in memory of the "Pilgrim Father," John Robinson.

— The House of Commons sat throughout the night, adjourning at 8.30 A.M., having had under consideration the report stage of the Agricultural Land Rating Bill, etc.

— Several shocks of earthquake felt at Larnaka, Limasol, and other parts of Cyprus.

30. Baron Hirsch's stud sold at Newmarket, realising 82,835 guineas, including 12,600 guineas for the brood mare La Flèche.

— The United States Court of Appeal decided that the Paris award defining restrictions placed upon American sealers was the law of the land and must be upheld.

JULY.

1. The German Civil Code, the result of thirty years' labour, adopted by the Reichstag by a majority of 174 votes. It marked the decisive victory of German over Roman law, and was to come into effect in 1900.

— The celebration of the octo-centenary of Norwich Cathedral inaugurated by a number of services in the building.

— In the House of Commons the Agricultural Land Rating Bill finally passed the third reading by 292 to 140 votes.

1. Reinforcements, after considerable fighting, reached Fort Charter with a supply of ammunition for the beleaguered garrison.

2. At Newmarket the Prince of Wales' Stakes, 10,000 sovs., won by Mr. L. Rothschild's St. Frusquin, 3 yrs., 9 st. 2 lbs. (T. Loates), defeating H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' Persimmon, 3 yrs., 9 st. 5 lbs. (J. Watts), by half a length. Ten started.

— The Queen received at Windsor 400 nurses belonging to the Jubilee Institute for Nurses, and personally inspected them.

-- Nyamanda, son of the late King Lobengula, proclaimed King of the Matabele, in whose rebellion he had taken a prominent part.

3. The Porte agreed to accept in principle the suggestion of the ambassadors for the pacification of Crete, including a general amnesty for all concerned in the native rising.

4. The Universities match at Lords resulted in the defeat of Cambridge by four wickets. Considerable controversy arose on the tactics of the Cambridge captain in giving the opponents eight runs by bowling wide, in order to prevent Oxford "following on." Scores:—

CAMBRIDGE.			
First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Mr. C. J. Burnup, c. Mordaunt, b. Hartley	80	c. and b. Hartley . . .	11
Mr. W. G. Grace, jun., b. Hartley . . .	0	b. Cunliffe	0
Mr. H. H. Marriott, c. Warner, b. Hartley	16	b. Cunliffe	1
Mr. N. F. Druce, c. Smith, b. Cunliffe . .	14	c. Pilkington, b. Waddy .	72
Mr. C. E. M. Wilson, c. Cunliffe, b. Hartley	80	c. Lewis, b. Hartley . . .	2
Mr. W. McG. Hemingway, c. and b. Hartley	26	b. Cunliffe	12
Mr. F. Mitchell, c. L.-Gower, b. Hartley .	26	b. Cunliffe	4
Mr. G. L. Jessop, c. Mordaunt, b. Hartley .	0	st. Lewis, b. Hartley . . .	19
Mr. E. H. Bray, c. Pilkington, b. Cunliffe .	49	c. Lewis, b. Waddy . . .	41
Mr. P. W. Cobbold, b. Hartley	10	not out	23
Mr. E. B. Shine, not out	10	c. Hartley, b. Waddy . . .	16
Byes, 4 ; l-b., 1 ; w., 2 ; n-b., 1 . . .	8	Byes, 5 ; w., 1 ; n-b., 5 .	11
	319		212

OXFORD.			
First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Mr. P. F. Warner, run out	10	run out	17
Mr. G. J. Mordaunt, b. Jessop	26	b. Jessop	9
Mr. H. K. Foster, b. Wilson	11	c. and b. Cobbold	34
Mr. G. O. Smith, c. Bray, b. Wilson . . .	37	c. Mitchell, b. Cobbold . .	132
Mr. C. C. Pilkington, b. Jessop	4	c. and b. Jessop	44
Mr. H. D. G. Leveson-Gower, b. Jessop . .	26	c. Bray, b. Shine	41
Mr. G. R. Bardswell, c. and b. Cobbold . .	9	not out	33
Mr. P. S. Waddy, st. Bray, b. Cobbold . .	0	not out	1
Mr. J. C. Hartley, c. Marriott, b. Wilson .	43		
Mr. F. H. E. Cunliffe, b. Shine	12		
Mr. R. P. Lewis, not out	0		
Byes, 12 ; l-b., 4 ; n-b., 8	24	Byes, 6 ; l-b., 6 ; w., 6 ; n-b., 1	19
	202		390

— The Czar and Czarina made their public entry into St. Petersburg after their coronation, but without any pomp or ceremony.

— A meet of American carriages in Hyde Park brought out a number of vehicles of unusual description and remarkably well-horsed.

4. For an entire week constant earthquake shocks felt all over the Island of Cyprus, causing a complete cessation of business in Larnaka, Nicosia, and other towns, the inhabitants betaking themselves to the open country.

6. Her Majesty's intention of conferring a peerage on Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of Cape Colony and High Commissioner in South Africa, announced.

— In the House of Commons Mr. J. Morley's amendment censuring the charge upon Indian revenue of the Indian forces despatched to Africa negatived, after a warm debate, by 275 to 190 votes, several Unionists voting against the Government.

— Colonel Plumer attacked the Matabele entrenched in a strong position at Mjati, and, after an obstinate struggle, drove them out of the hill tops.

7. The Ancient and Honourable Artillery Company of Boston, about 200 strong, arrived as guests of the Honourable Artillery of London, and were subsequently received by the Queen at Windsor.

— During a severe thunderstorm the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford struck by lightning and the roof set on fire, but no damage was done to the collection.

— Several cases of cholera appeared in the British and Egyptian troops at Akasheh and Ferkeh, and the disease, in an epidemic form, declared to extend from Wady Halfa to the Fayoom.

8. Sir C. Tupper, the Canadian Prime Minister, tendered his resignation, and the Governor-General (Earl of Aberdeen) at once sent for Mr. Laurier, the leader of the Liberal party.

— Fort Charter relieved by Captain White's column, after a march of 212 miles in twelve days; and Engeldoom, 105 miles distant from Fort Salisbury, relieved by Colonel Beal.

— The Druse Chief Shebli et Atrash, for some time Kaimakan of the Mountain, and fourteen others who had been imprisoned with him in Damascus, exiled.

9. The final heats at Henley Regatta were decided as follows (American, French, and Belgian Clubs competing):—

Grand Challenge Cup. Leander Club beat Thames Rowing Club, $2\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, 7 min. 43 secs.

Wyfold Challenge Cup. Trinity College, Oxford, beat London Rowing Club, $\frac{1}{2}$ length, 8 min. 41 secs.

Visitors' Challenge Cup. Caius College, Cambridge, beat Magdalen College, Oxford, 1 length, 8 min. 29 secs.

Stewards' Challenge Cup. London Rowing Club beat Thames Rowing Club, 1 length, 8 min. 42 secs.

Ladies' Challenge Plate. Eton College beat Balliol College, Oxford, $2\frac{1}{2}$ lengths, 8 min. 6 secs.

Diamond Sculls. Hon. R. Guinness beat R. K. Beaumont, 2 lengths, 9 min. 35 secs.

Thames Challenge Cup. Emmanuel College, Cambridge, beat Paris Société Nautique, 3 lengths, 8 min. 7 secs.

Silver Goblet. V. Nickalls and G. Nickalls beat W. E. Crum and C. M. Pitman easily, 9 min. 10 secs.

9. At Chicago the Democratic Convention rejected the amendment of the East States delegates to “amend the platform” in respect of free coinage and sectional rights.

10. In the Democratic Convention at Chicago Mr. W. J. Bryan, of Nebraska (a Silverite of extreme views), on the fifth ballot was nominated the party candidate for the Presidency by 446 votes to 165 given to Mr. Bland, of Missouri.

— The Benedictine Priory of St. Augustine’s, Ramsgate, raised by the Pope to the dignity of an abbey, the prior being made Abbot of St. Augustine’s, Canterbury, this being the first English abbey of (Black) Benedictines founded in England since the Reformation.

— The House of Lords by 142 against 104 votes passed the third reading of the Deceased Wife’s Sister Bill.

— The Prince of Wales inspected the Ancient and Honourable Artillery Company of Boston in the gardens of Marlborough House.

11. A stained glass window erected to the memory of Massinger, the dramatist, in St. Saviour’s, Southwark, where he was buried in 1640, unveiled by Sir Walter Besant.

— The annual match between Eton and Harrow ended in a draw, Harrow having had to follow on. The scores stood at the close:—

ETON.

Mr. R. Lubbock, c. Vibart, b. Cole	. . . . .	56
Mr. C. K. Hutchison, c. Vibart, b. Cole	. . . . .	5
Mr. H. C. Pilkington, c. Matthews, b Dowson	. . . . .	101
Mr. C. T. Allen (capt.), b. Cole	. . . . .	10
Mr. B. J. T. Bosanquet, c. Henley, b. Blair	. . . . .	120
Mr. F. H. Mitchell, b. Dowson	. . . . .	11
Mr. F. H. Hollins, l-b-w., b Dowson	. . . . .	8
Mr. A. D. Legard, b. Vibart	. . . . .	37
Mr. G. L. Tryon, c. Vibart, b. Dowson	. . . . .	33
Mr. C. H. Browning, not out	. . . . .	0
Hon. G. Ward, l-b-w., b. Vibart	. . . . .	0
L-b., 3 ; w., 1 ; n-b., 1	. . . . .	5
		<hr/>
		386

HARROW.

First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Mr. P. T. Maw, c. Browning, b. Ward	. 11	b. Allen	. . . 23
Mr. T. G. O. Cole, run out	. 8	run out	. . . 23
Mr. W. P. Robertson, c. Tryon, b. Bosanquet	. 3	b. Bosanquet	. . . 0
Mr. R. F. Vibart, b Mitchell	. 42	b. Allen	. . . 35
Mr. H. L. Matthews, c. and b. Mitchell	. 10	b. Bosanquet	. . . 7
Hon. F. R. Henley (capt.), st. Browning, b. Mitchell	. 1		
Mr. E. B. T. Studd, c Pilkington, b. Mitchell	. 5	b. Tryon	. . . 50
Mr. W. F. A. Rattigan, c. Browning, b. Tryon	. 19	c and b. Mitchell	. . . 72
Mr. H. J. Wyld, b. Mitchell	. 81	c. and b. Tryon	. . . 0
Mr. E. M. Dowson, b. Mitchell	. 26	not out	. . . 12
Mr. H. M. Blair, not out	. 1	not out	. . . 22
Byes, 7 ; l-b., 1 ; w., 4 ; n-b., 1	. 13	Byes, 6 ; w., 5	. . . 11
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	218		255

13. The Aberdeen express from Euston while passing through Preston ran off the line, and the two engines and six coaches composing the train

ploughed their way for some distance through the soil. All were completely wrecked, but only one passenger lost his life.

13. Complete returns of the Belgian elections showed that in the new Chamber of Deputies the Clericals would be stronger than previously, the numbers being 111 Clericals, 12 Liberals, and 29 Socialists.

— The Antwerp police expelled above thirty English Socialists who had assembled with the view of inciting the dock labourers to strike.

— The sculling race for the championship of the world (500l. a-side and the Challenge Cup) rowed on the Thames course, Putney to Mortlake. The Australian, James Stanbury, of Sydney, N.S.W. (13 st.), easily defeated C. R. Harding, of Chelsea (9 st. 8 lbs.), by eight lengths, in 21 min. 51 secs.

14. President Faure whilst on his way to review the Paris garrison on the occasion of the National *Fête* twice fired at with blank cartridge by a supposed lunatic named François.

— The Italian Ministry, as reconstituted under the Marchese di Rudini, approved by the King.

— The Cretan Assembly opened by the Governor-General, but the reading of the discourse from the Governor in Turkish instead of Greek gave rise to strong protests.

15. A statue of Cardinal Newman in the grounds of the Brompton Oratory, a bust of Dr. Thomas Arnold in Westminster Abbey, and a monument to Hemyng and Condell, the printers of the first collected edition of Shakespeare's plays, in the Churchyard of St. Mary, Aldermanbury, unveiled.

— In the Cape Assembly, on the motion of Mr. Schreiner, leave of absence, after an excited debate, was granted to Mr. Cecil Rhodes by 52 to 12 votes.

— President Faure unveiled at Rheims with much ceremony an equestrian statue of Joan of Arc erected in front of the cathedral.

16. Cholmondeley Castle, near Malpas, Cheshire, an old manorial residence, which had played an important part in the wars of the Cavaliers and Puritans, partially destroyed by fire. The family portraits, however, were saved.

— The Humber Cycle Mills at Coventry almost completely ruined by fire, property and buildings valued at many thousands of pounds being destroyed.

17. The report of the Select Committee appointed by the Cape Assembly on the Jameson raid presented to that body. It found Mr. Cecil Rhodes, Mr. Beit, and Mr. Rutherford Harris to have been active promoters of the enterprise, although there was no evidence that they contemplated an invasion of the Transvaal uninvited.

— At Sandown Park Meeting the Eclipse Stakes, value 10,000 sovs., won by the favourite, Mr. L. de Rothschild's St. Frusquin, 3 yrs.,

9 st. 4 lbs. (T. Loates), defeating the Duke of Westminster's Regret, 8 st. 8 lbs. Four started.

17. The Wingfield Sculls carrying the amateur championship of the Thames won by Hon. Rupert Guinness, who defeated the holder, Mr. Vivian Nickalls, by $2\frac{1}{2}$ lengths. Time, 24 min. 10 secs.

— Spitzbergen crossed for the first time from east to west by Sir W. Martin Conway's party, who, quitting Advent Bay on the Ice Fiord, ascended the Sassendal and finally reached Agardh Bay on the Stor Fiord, after traversing a vast glacier.

18. The centenary of the death of Robert Burns inaugurated by the unveiling of a statue at Irvine, Ayrshire, by Mr. Alfred Austin, the Poet Laureate, followed on 21st inst. by a general celebration throughout Scotland, Lord Rosebery delivering an eloquent speech at Dumfries.

— At Manchester the second test match between the Elevens of England and Australia ended in the victory of the Colonials by three wickets. Scores :—

Australia. First innings 412 runs, second innings 125.

England. First innings 291 runs, second innings 305.

20. The trial at Bar of Dr. Jameson and his co-defendants commenced, but before the jury was sworn the counsel for the defence moved that the indictment should be quashed, but this plea was not allowed.

— At a general assembly of Academicians and Associates Mr. Ernest Crofts, A.R.A., was elected a Royal Academician.

— Dr. Stöcker, formerly Court Chaplain to the German Emperor, issued a manifesto of the new Christian Social party or Volksgeist, of which he assumed the direction.

21. A fire broke out in a bedroom in Buckingham Palace occupied by one of the Ladies in Waiting on the Crown Princess of Denmark. It was extinguished before any serious damage was done.

— The Paris Municipal Council voted 10,000 francs towards the expenses of the French delegates to the International Socialist Congress in London.

— General Carrington attacked the Matabele securely entrenched in the fastnesses of the Matoppo Hills, but without satisfactory results, although the British losses were trifling.

22. The marriage of Princess Maud of Wales and Prince Charles of Denmark took place in the Chapel of Buckingham Palace in the presence of the Queen and royal families of the two countries.

— Two bands of armed men, believed to have come from Thessaly, crossed the frontier into Macedonia; and an encounter with the Turkish troops ended disastrously for the latter.

— The first half of the Congo railway, extending from Matadi to Tombo, inaugurated; the distance being covered in ten hours.

23. The Dutch troops in Java obtained a brilliant victory at Lamrada over the Achinese, whose chief, Nja Makain, was killed.

— Considerable rioting took place at Lille in consequence of the Municipality, composed chiefly of Socialists, having invited three German Socialists to take part in the conference. The crowd broke up the Socialist procession and shouted down the Germans.

— The German gunboat *Iltis* foundered in a typhoon off the Shawtung promontory, and only eleven men out of a crew of eighty-five officers and men were saved.

24. In the House of Commons, after a sitting prolonged until 4.30 A.M., the Irish Land Bill passed through Committee.

— The letters exchanged between the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Metropolitan Polladius of St. Petersburg on the occasion of the Czar's coronation published.

— In the Cape House of Assembly, after the adoption of the majority report of the Committee on the Jameson raid, an enthusiastic meeting, attended by 2,500, was held in Cape Town expressing confidence in Mr. Cecil Rhodes, and demanding his reinstatement.

25. The Populist Convention at St. Louis nominated Mr. Bryan as candidate for the Presidency, and Mr. Thomas Watson of Georgia for the Vice-Presidency, notwithstanding the efforts made to induce Mr. Sewall of New York, who had been chosen at Chicago.

— A second period of drought, which had lasted, especially in Southern England, for nearly six weeks, and coupled with an extraordinarily high temperature, terminated in heavy thunderstorms.

— The Duchess of Albany distributed the prizes at the close of the annual meeting of the National Rifle Association. The chief events were :—

MATCHES.

Matches.	Distance.	Highest possible score.	Total scores.
Regulars & Volunteer Officers (any rifle)	800, 900, 1,000	1,800	{ Volunteers 1,551 { Regulars 1,550
Humphry Cup (any rifle).	800, 900, 1,000	900	{ Cambridge 742 { Oxford 738
Ashburton Shield (M.-Henry)	200, 500	560	Charterhouse 414
Chancellor's Plate (Martini-Henry)	200, 500, 600	840	{ Cambridge 606 { Oxford 568
Kolapore Cup (Martini-Henry)	200, 500, 600	840	Canada 656
United Service Cup (Martini-Henry, Lee-Metford or Car.)	200, 500, 600	840	Regulars 609
National Challenge Trophy (Martini-Henry)	200, 500, 600	2,100	{ Scotland 1,658 { Wales 1,647 { England 1,642 { Ireland 1,611 { England 1,659 { Ireland 1,614 { Scotland 1,588
Elcho Challenge Shield (any rifle)	800, 900, 1,000	1,800	Lancashire 898
China Cup (Martini-Henry)	600	500	

PRIZES.

Prizes.	Distance.	Highest possible score.	Winner.
The Waldegrave(any rifle)	800, 900	100	Capt. G.C. Gibbs, 2nd Glo'ster Engineers 96
Albert Cup (any rifle) .	800, 900, 1,000	175	E. Rigby, Dublin 156
Secretary of State's Prize (Mag. Breech Loader) .	800, 900	70	J. Caldwell, N.R.A. 64
Spencer Cup (Martini-Henry)	500	35	Sgt. Parkinson, Well'ton Sch. 35
Duke of Cambridge's Prize (Mag. Br. Loader)	900, 1,000	100	J. Gibson, Musselburgh . . . 79
Imperial (Lee-Metford) .	{ 200, 500, 600 }	180	Qr.-Master-Sgt.Sheldon, R.E. 165
Queen's (Martini-Henry)	800	105	Pt. A. Wilson, 7th Middlesex, winner of Bronze Medal—
	200, 500, 600,		1st stage 96
" "	500, 600	125	Capt. R. Foster, 4th W. Surrey, winner of Silver Medal—
			2nd stage, 91, 105 196
" "	800, 900	100	Lieut. Thomson, Queen's Edinburgh (Gold Medal)—
			3rd stage, 95, 100, 78 . . . 278
English Twenty Club Gold Jewel (any rifle) .	Best aggregate		Capt. Archdale, King's Lynn 397
Alexandra (Martini-Henry)	500, 600	70	Sgt. G. W. Straine, 1st A. & S, Highlanders 65
St. George's Vase (Martini-Henry) . . .	500, 600	70	Pt. Fulton, 13th Middlesex—
" "	800	50	1st stage 65
			2nd Stage 43

The Grand "Aggregate" Trophy fell to Pt. A. Wilson, 7th Middlesex, 233 points; the All-Comers' "Aggregate" Cup to Quarter-Master-Sergeant G. W. Robinson, School of Musketry, 155 points; and the Volunteers' "Aggregate" Trophy to Pt. A. Wilson, 7th Middlesex, 182 points.

26. The unveiling of a statue to Jules Ferry at Saint Dié attended by a number of Cabinet Ministers, amongst whom was M. Hanotaux, who pronounced an eulogy on M. Ferry's Colonial policy.

— A tidal wave, five miles in width, inundated the coast of Kiang-su, near Hai-chan, destroying a number of villages and upwards of 4,000 of the population.

— Paris was visited by a violent storm of wind and rain which did incalculable damage to houses, gardens, and buildings, especially in the eastern and south-eastern suburbs, including the Jardin des Plantes.

-- Messrs. Harland & Wolff's shipbuilding yards seriously injured by a fire which broke out in the joiners' shop, and raged for several hours. Property valued at 200,000*l.* was destroyed, and several thousands of workmen were thrown out of employ.

27. The International Socialist Workers' Congress met in London under the presidency of Mr. E. Cowey, of the Yorkshire Miners' Federation, but in consequence of the disturbance raised by the Anarchist section the meeting was adjourned.

— A railway collision took place on the Rajputana line, near Delhi, when upwards of fifty persons were killed and many injured.

28. Dr. Jameson and his five co-defendants found guilty on the several counts upon which they were charged before the Central Criminal Court, and sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from fifteen months in the case of Dr. Jameson to five months in the cases of Colonels White and Grey and Major Coventry—in all cases without hard labour.

28. Serious disturbance occurred at Zurich between Swiss and Italian workmen, who quite overpowered the police, and were not reduced to order until the military, despatched from St. Gall, had cleared the streets.

— During a thunderstorm off Spezia the coast-defence ship *Roma* struck by lightning and set on fire. To prevent the powder magazine being blown up to the danger of surrounding ships, the *Roma* was sunk by two torpedoes.

29. The House of Commons, after an all-night sitting, having disposed of the report stage of the Irish Land Bill, met a few hours later and after a further debate passed the third reading without a division.

— At Ilfracombe thirty of the largest business premises in the town destroyed by fire, which spread rapidly along the High Street. Property valued at 100,000*l.* was consumed.

30. The greater part of the buildings in course of erection for the Montreal International Exhibition, valued at \$200,000, destroyed by fire.

— Dr. Jameson and his companions removed from Holloway Prison to Wormwood Scrubbs. A memorial, largely signed by members of Parliament on all sides of the House of Commons, was presented to the Home Secretary praying that they should be treated as first class misdemeanants.

31. At Goodwood Meeting the principal races were :—

Stewards' Cup.—Mr. J. Ryan's Chasseur, 4 yrs., 8 st. 5 lbs. (Rickaby).
Twenty-four ran.

Richmond Stakes.—Lord Durham's Chillingham, 2 yrs., 8 st. 10 lbs. (Rickaby). Five ran.

Goodwood Stakes.—Mr. Hamar Bass' Carlton Grange, 4 yrs., 7 st. 7 lbs. (Allsopp). Six ran.

Lavant Stakes.—Duke of Westminster's Regret, 3 yrs., 9 st. 1 lb. (M. Cannon). Four ran.

Goodwood Cup.—M. Lebaudy's Count Schomberg, 3 yrs., 8 st. 11 lbs. (S. Loates). Walked over.

Chesterfield Cup.—Mr. Theobald's Phœbus Apollo, 3 yrs., 6 st. 10 lbs. (N. Robinson). Eleven ran.

— An excursion train on the Pennsylvania Railway run into almost at right angles by an express train near Atlantic City, where the lines crossed, killing fifty persons and injuring many more.

— In the House of Lords the Irish Land Bill, after a long debate, read a second time without a division.

AUGUST.

1. At Sofia a dynamite bomb exploded on the grave, shattering the monument, of M. Stambouloff, the minister who had been brutally murdered a year previously.

— At Cairo an electric tramway, the first constructed in Egypt, opened in the presence of the Minister of Public Works.

2. Li Hung Chang, the Chinese Minister of State, landed at Southampton, and on reaching London was conducted to a house engaged for his occupation by the Government.

3. Lisbon kept in total darkness for three nights in consequence of a strike of all the workmen and lamplighters.

— The naval manœuvres brought to a formal close, the squadron under Admiral Seymour having managed to escape the blockading fleet without being forced to fight or to take refuge in fortified ports.

— A rainstorm—the first for nine years—fell at Kosheh (Soudan), filling all the wells, and greatly welcomed by both the troops and natives.

— The Greek Government, under pressure from the Great Powers, took stringent measures to prevent armed volunteers embarking for Crete or invading Macedonia. At the same time the Mussulman population of Crete, resenting the efforts of their rulers to maintain peace, pillaged the houses of Christians.

4. The Chicago Stock Exchange closed for an indefinite period in consequence of the panic produced by the failure of a prominent firm of financiers with liabilities exceeding \$6,000,000.

— The results of the French census showed the total population of France to have been 38,228,969, an increase of 133,819 in five years.

— The imposition of new octroi duties gave rise to serious riots in various parts of the province of Valencia, and collisions between armed bands and the police and troops took place in several districts.

5. The Armenian Patriarch, Mgr. Izmirlian, tendered his resignation in consequence of the intriguing policy of the Porte and under pressure from the Palace.

— The Queen approved of a recommendation that a commemorative medal should be struck and conferred upon the inhabitants of Ile de Molène, Ushant, etc., who had displayed kindness in connection with the loss of the *Drummond Castle*.

— The Portuguese Government, acting as arbitrator, decided that the Island of Trinidad, an uninhabited rock, belonged to Brazil, and the British Government at once recognised the arbitration.

— Li Hung Chang visited the Queen at Osborne, passing through the fleet assembled at Spithead, and afterwards visited Portsmouth Dockyard.

— A combined force of British and colonial troops under Lieut.-Colonel Plumer stormed the Matabele, about 400 strong, entrenched among the Matoppo Hills, and after a severe struggle drove them out.

6. The trial of Major Lothaire at Brussels, on appeal from the court at Boma, resulted in the acquittal of the Belgian official, no fresh evidence being brought forward.

— President Faure visited Brest, and thence went to various places in Brittany, where he was warmly received. No previous visit of the Chief of the State had been made to Brittany since the establishment of the Republic.

6. At Christiania a fire broke out in a gilding factory and rapidly extended to the neighbouring buildings. Nine persons were killed by the falling ruins and ten others seriously injured.

7. A proposal to blockade the Island of Crete by the Great Powers negatived by Lord Salisbury's refusal to join in the demonstration.

8. The 100-mile cycle race at Catford won by R. Palmer in 3 hours 37 mins. 57½ secs.

— Li Hung Chang deposited wreaths at the foot of General Gordon's statue in Trafalgar Square and on his sarcophagus in St. Paul's Cathedral.

9. The total eclipse of the sun visible in the Arctic Circle and Japan, for which expeditions had been sent from various countries, failed to give any practical results in consequence of the cloudy state of the sky.

— The oil warehouses and refinery of Messrs. W. A. Rose & Co. at Millwall totally destroyed by a fire which spread to the barges in the river.

10. The Khedive left Egypt for Trieste for a six weeks' tour in Switzerland, the Premier acting as regent in his absence.

— Intense heat prevailed in the Eastern States of America. Upwards of 400 deaths due to the heat occurred in New York City alone in five days. Horses fell dead in the streets faster than they could be carried away.

— Serious floods occurred in the cantons of Valais and Ticino and in other parts of Switzerland, rain having persistently fallen all over the country for several days. In many places, even in the north, the train service was interrupted.

— An actor named Temple Crozier fatally stabbed by misadventure whilst performing at the Novelty Theatre, London.

11. The Queen, through a letter to the Home Secretary, intimated her wish that any celebration of her prolonged reign should be reserved until the following year.

— At Cowes the Royal Victoria Yacht Club cups were on two following days won by the German Emperor's yacht *Meteor*, defeating the Prince of Wales' *Britannia*.

— A "Revolutionary Assembly" composed of Cretan Christians from all parts of the island established.

12. The third test match between the Australians and England played at Kennington Oval resulted in the defeat of the Colonials by 66 runs, after a very exciting struggle. Scores :—

England. First innings 145 runs, second innings 84.

Australia. First innings 119 runs, second innings 44.

— The report of the Vaccination Commission, after sitting for seven years, presented—recommending the maintenance of compulsory vaccination, but abolishing accumulated penalties for refusal.

13. Dr. Nansen, having abandoned his ship the *Fram* in March, 1895, and taken to the ice, arrived at Vardö from Franz Josefland, where he had been found by the Jackson-Harmsworth Expedition.

13. Mr. Bryan, the Democratic candidate for the Presidency, addressed a meeting of 12,000 persons in New York and was enthusiastically received, but his speech was somewhat coldly listened to.

14. Parliament prorogued by Royal Commission, after the House of Commons Committee appointed to inquire into British South Africa Company had held its first meeting and elected Mr. W. L. Jackson chairman.

— A fire broke out in the basement of the Floral Hall at Covent Garden Market, and considerable damage done.

— Takni, chief of the insurgents in Macedonia, arrived on the Greek frontier, pursued by the Turks. He and fifteen companions arrested by the Greek authorities and removed to Larissa.

15. Lord Salisbury with much ceremony installed as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, the mayors and barons of the fourteen towns assembling at Dover to conduct the Lord Warden Elect to a Grand Court of Shipway.

— General Bronsart von Schellendorf, Prussian Minister of War, resigned in consequence of the influence exercised by General von Hahnke, chief of the Military Cabinet.

— A gunboat passed the second cataract of the Nile without difficulty and arrived at Kosheh.

— Li Hung Chang, on his way to Barrow-in-Furness, paid a visit to Mr. Gladstone at Hawarden, with whom he had a long conversation.

17. Sir Edmund Monson, G.C.B., appointed Ambassador at Paris in succession to the Marquess of Dufferin, and Sir Horace Rumbold, G.C.M.G., Ambassador at Vienna.

— Serious rioting took place at Belfast in connection with an amnesty procession, and several persons were injured.

— At Cowes the Royal Albert Cup won by the German Emperor's yacht *Meteor*, defeating the *Britannia* and other yachts.

— The Matabele having been dispersed from their strongholds in the Matoppo Hills, the rebellion practically subsided, the majority of the chiefs making submission.

— Hornsund Tind, the highest mountain in Spitzbergen, successfully ascended by Mr. Trevor-Battye, Mr. Garwood, and Mr. Botholfsen.

18. At Southsea the Royal Albert Yacht Club Regatta abandoned in consequence of a collision between the German Emperor's yacht *Meteor* and the *Isolde* belonging to Baron von Zedtwitz, who was so seriously injured that he died shortly afterwards.

— A series of scenic displays begun at Studley Royal, the seat of the Marquess of Ripon, in celebration of the beginning of Queen Victoria's sixtieth year of reign.

— At Montpellier a fire broke out in a panorama forming part of a local exhibition to which the municipality and others had lent a number of valuable archives and works of art. Three of the largest pavilions with all their contents were completely destroyed.

19. The *Ernest Bazin*, a ship constructed on a series of rollers, supporting six hollow drums on which the cabins, deck, and engines rested, launched at the Cail Works, St. Denis, Paris.

— Dr. Nansen's ship, the *Fram*, which he had left in the ice in March, 1895, arrived safely at Skjervö, on the west coast of Norway.

20. The funeral of Sir John Millais, P.R.A., took place with much ceremony in St. Paul's Cathedral, and was attended by the representatives of the royal family and learned societies.

— John Daly, sentenced in August, 1884, to penal servitude for life for complicity in a dynamite conspiracy, released from Portland Prison. Whitehead, Delany, and others were also released.

— The Congress of the American Bar Association opened at Saratoga, when the Lord Chief Justice of England, Lord Russell of Killowen, delivered an address on "International Law," which was very cordially received by a large and distinguished audience.

21. Horseless carriages in Paris admitted, by a decision of the Prefect of the Seine, to all the rights and privileges of the ordinary *fiacre*.

— A conspiracy discovered by the authorities in Manila, having for its object the separation of the Philippine Islands from Spain.

22. Li Hung Chang left Southampton by the American liner *St. Louis* for New York.

— Mr. Cecil Rhodes entered the Matoppos unarmed with only three attendants, and received the submission of several Matabele chiefs.

— Major the Hon. Charles J. Coventry, one of the officers sentenced to five months' imprisonment with Dr. Jameson, and who was wounded at Krügersdorp, released from Holloway Gaol in consequence of the serious state of his health.

— The Brazilian Chamber of Deputies having rejected unanimously a bill for arbitration on the Italian claims, serious conflicts between Italians and Brazilians took place at St. Pauls.

24. At Moscow a serious fire broke out in the Rumanzeff Museum, destroying the public library and its contents, and injuring the pictures of the Rumanzeff and Dolgorouky galleries.

— Brufar, chief of the Macedonian insurgents, killed, and his band routed by the Turkish troops.

— The directors and auditors of the City of Melbourne Bank committed for trial on the charge of publishing false balance-sheets.

25. Hamed ben Said, Sultan of Zanzibar, died suddenly, and Said Khalid, his nephew, proclaimed himself Sultan. British sailors at once landed and demanded his surrender.

— Alfred Whitehead, whose real name was John Murphy, a dynamite convict recently released from Portland, disappeared from his home at Skibbereen within a few hours of his arrival, under the hallucination that the police were endeavouring to recapture him.

26. A severe sandstorm, accompanied by a cyclone from the south

and a phenomenal downpour of rain, did considerable damage to the railroad recently laid to Akasheh, as well as to the camp established at Sarras. Fifteen miles of railroad were washed away and the telegraph interrupted.

26. In Iceland a succession of earthquakes, the most serious in the century, devastated the district of Rangavaka Syssel, lying to the south of Mount Hecla. A fortnight later the western district of Arnes Syssel was similarly devastated.

27. Said Khalid having refused to haul down his flag and to surrender, his palace was bombarded by three British gunboats, and in fifty minutes was reduced to ruins, and a steamer which took part in the engagement sunk. Only one British sailor was wounded.

— At Galata, a business quarter of Constantinople, a band of forty men, armed with revolvers and bombs, forced their way into the Ottoman Bank and barricaded themselves. After some fighting the men, who proved to be Armenians, were allowed to depart under a safe-conduct obtained by the bank authorities. Riots occurred at the same time in other parts of Pera and Galata, and many persons were killed and injured.

— The Czar and Czaritza arrived at Vienna, their first halt on their tour through Europe, and were enthusiastically welcomed by the people of all classes.

— The Marquess Ito, the Japanese Prime Minister, who had conducted affairs for many years, resigned, together with the principal members of his Cabinet.

— Li Hung Chang arrived at New York, where he was received by the representatives of President Cleveland with full honours.

— A serious railway accident occurred near Bruges, on the local line to Heyst. One person was killed and several seriously injured.

— The Ambassadors at Constantinople despatched a telegram to the Sultan declaring the state of anarchy in the capital to be intolerable, and that the empire was endangered by the connivance of the imperial troops. Upwards of 5,000 Armenians had been massacred within the past three days.

29. Disturbances took place at Scarborough between the Lowestoft and Cornish fishermen, the ringleaders being with difficulty arrested by the police.

— The Sultan acceded to the demands made by the Powers for the settlement of the Cretan question, consenting to the principle of local self-government under a Christian governor, removable only with the consent of the Powers.

— After a grand review of troops and other functions the Czar and Czaritza left Vienna. On the return journey, shortly after having crossed the Russian frontier, Prince Lobanof, the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, was seized with illness and died.

31. The discovery of an extensive gold-bearing quartz reef made at Cape Broyle, forty miles south of St. John's, Newfoundland.

31. Three Hamburg companies acquired a large tract of land in the province of Santa Catherina in Brazil, with the object of founding a German colony.

— The County Cricket Matches of the season resulted in the championship falling to Yorkshire; Lancashire, Middlesex, and Surrey following in the order named.

SEPTEMBER.

1. The Convention of the Irish Race began its sittings in Leinster Hall, Dublin. About 2,000 delegates from all parts of the world attended, and on the motion of Mr. Justin M'Carthy, M.P., Dr. O'Donnell, Bishop of Raphoe, was elected chairman. The Parnellites and Healyites were not represented.

2. Mr. Gladstone distributed the prizes given at the Hawarden *Fête* to the competing musical societies of the principality, and subsequently made a long speech upon the pursuit of music in Great Britain.

— The Czar and Czaritza attended the consecration of the new cathedral at Kieff, dedicated to St. Vladimir, and the unveiling of a statue of Nicholas I.

— Large quantities of South American copper coins, purchased for their weight in metal, found to have been introduced into France and circulated at their nominal value.

3. The Democratic Sound Money Convention sitting at Indianapolis, attended by 845 delegates, unanimously adopted General Palmer, of Illinois, as their candidate for the Presidency, and Mr. S. B. Buckner, of Kentucky, for the Vice-Presidency.

— Señor Errazuriz elected by Congress President of Chili by a majority of two votes.

— The General Catholic Congress assembled at Salzbouurg adopted a completely anti-Semitic and anti-Magyar programme, a manifesto in favour of agrarian reforms, and a demand for the restoration of the temporal power of the Pope.

4. At the annual Convention of the Irish National League, held at Dublin under the presidency of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., the adherents of Mr. Healy failed to obtain re-election to their various offices.

— The Cretan Deputies agreed to accept unreservedly the large measure of autonomy obtained from the Porte by the intervention of the Powers.

— The first annual report of the Austrian State Institution for the preparation of antitoxin serum stated that of 1,100 cases of diphtheria treated, 970 had recovered.

5. The Czar and Czaritza arrived at Breslau, where they were received by the German Emperor and Empress with great effusion and by the large crowds with less cordiality. The festivities included the review of the three army corps stationed in Silesia.

5. The Marquess of Londonderry, speaking at Wynyard Park, strongly censured the simultaneous release of four dynamitards, whose detention in prison by the previous Government had been strongly applauded by the Unionist party.

— The Arctic steam-yacht *Windward* with four members of the Jackson-Harmsworth Expedition arrived in the Thames, after two winters in the Arctic regions.

6. Lieutenant G. Heyman and seven men belonging to H.M.S. *Satellite* drowned at Analaska, in the North Pacific, the boat in which they were going to the rescue of two comrades being swamped by the heavy sea.

7. The twenty-ninth Trade Union Congress, attended by 342 delegates representing 171 societies, met at Edinburgh under the presidency of Councillor J. Mallinson of Edinburgh.

— A dispute with reference to the employment of a non-unionist workman by a Glasgow firm threatened to bring about a strike and lock-out in all the shipbuilding firms on the Clyde and Tyne and at Belfast, but was averted at the last moment.

— The match for the professional sculling championship of the world between James Stanbury, of New South Wales (the holder), and Jacob Gaudaur, of Canada, rowed from Putney to Mortlake. Stanbury first took the lead, but was soon passed by Gaudaur, who won by several hundred yards in 23 min. 1 sec.

8. The Czar and Czaritza arrived at Kiel, having passed through Berlin at midnight, and embarked at once for Copenhagen.

— Makoni, the Matabele rebel chief, who had been captured after refusing to surrender, tried for armed rebellion, convicted and shot.

9. At the Doncaster Meeting the St. Leger Stakes won by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' Persimmon, 3 yrs., 9 st. (J. Watts)—seven started; and on the following day the Prince's horse Safety Pin, 3 yrs., 7 st. 12 lbs. (Madden), won the Alexandra Plate by two lengths—eleven started.

— Dr. Nansen and his companions arrived at Christiania, where they were received with great enthusiasm by the people and with great cordiality by the King.

— Li Hung Chang, on his journey through Canada by the Canadian Pacific Railway, attracted large numbers to the various stations.

10. The Bank of England unexpectedly raised its rate of discount to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from 2 per cent., at which figure it had remained for more than two and a half years. The reserve stood at 32,380,000*l.*, $56\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of the liabilities, and the stock of bullion at 40,575,005*l.*

— An extraordinary tornado, lasting a little more than a minute, burst over Paris, extending from the Place St. Sulpice to the Boulevard de la Villette, caused serious injury to numerous public buildings, upsetting vehicles and driving boats from their moorings. Several persons were killed and many injured by the falling roofs and chimneys.

10. The Turkish Government, having in compliance with the demands of the Powers ceased the massacre of Armenians in Constantinople, commenced their deportation without trial.

11. The general advance of the troops from Kosheb to Dongola commenced by way of Dulgo and Haibar.

— Georgi Pasha Berovitch appointed first Christian Governor of Crete under the new convention with the great Powers.

— The Doncaster Cup won by Mr. W. W. Fulton's *Laodamia*, 6 yrs., 9 st. 2 lbs. (Hunt). Eight started.

— A boat belonging to H.M.S. *Narcissus* of the China Squadron capsized in the Fish River, and Captain H. B. Lang, R.N., and three seamen drowned.

12. The Fenian leader P. J. Tynan, known as "No. 1," who directed the Phoenix Park murders in 1882, arrested at Boulogne, where he had arrived on the previous day. Simultaneously a man named Bell was arrested at Glasgow, and Wallace and Haines at Rotterdam, in connection with a formidable conspiracy.

— Lord Rosebery, Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Asquith, in letters to correspondents, gave expression to the indignation felt at the atrocities in Constantinople, and expressed the hope that the Government would be able to make the opinion of Great Britain felt.

13. A new dock, capable of receiving the largest ships of war, opened at Dunkirk by the Minister of Public Works. Upwards of 50,000,000 francs had been expended on the works, which had occupied seven years.

14. A Peasants' Congress, attended by Prince Liechtenstein, Stadtholder of Lower Austria, Dr. Lueger, Vice-Burgomaster of Vienna, and many leading Anti-Semites, held in the Town Hall of Vienna, and passed resolutions hostile to Hungary.

— The five officers of the Army who took part in the Transvaal raid and were tried and convicted, permitted to retire from her Majesty's service, whilst the eight who were discharged at Bow Street Police Court ordered to return to duty after a severe censure by the Adjutant-General.

15. Mr. Tom Mann on arriving at Hamburg to address a meeting of seamen and dock-labourers met by the police, and served with a notice of immediate expulsion from Hamburg territory.

— The Aberdeen University Court unanimously adopted the report of a committee requiring Professor Johnston, D.D., to retire from the Chair of Biblical Criticism in the University.

16. The British Association met at Liverpool, when the presidential address was delivered by Sir Joseph Lister, M.D., who took for his subject the interdependence of science and the healing art.

— The great increase of the Cuban paper currency and the attempt to give it forced circulation followed by a general refusal by the shopkeepers and smaller bankers to accept notes.

16. The International Meteorological Congress met at Paris, attended by sixty delegates from various countries, and presided over by M. Mascart.

17. Rich gold-fields stated to have been discovered in fourteen places between Chumikan and Ayan on the banks of the river Aikvashra in Kamtschatka.

— The Turkish Minister of Police announced the discovery of a bomb factory at Scutari, as well as the arrest of two leaders and several members of an Armenian revolutionary committee.

— At Eguin, a flourishing town on the Euphrates, 2,500 Armenians murdered by the Kurds, who, with the connivance of the Turkish authorities, had been allowed to plunder the defenceless inhabitants.

18. Apostolic letters (beginning *Apostolicæ Curæ*) issued from the Vatican proclaiming ordinations made according to the Anglican rite to be absolutely invalid, and concluding by inviting Anglicans to return to Catholic unity.

— The bounties on German sugar manufactured for export having been doubled by the Reichstag in the month of May, the production of sugar was so much increased and the price reduced that the manufacturers petitioned Government for the universal abrogation of direct and indirect premiums.

19. Great meetings held at Manchester and elsewhere in connection with the Armenian massacres, calling upon the Government to intervene.

— The Anglo-Egyptian expeditionary force advanced on Kerman, which was defended by a strong fort at Hafir. After a protracted fight the fort was silenced and the town occupied, and three gunboats steaming up the stream reached Dongola, reconnoitred the district, and returned.

— The King of the Belgians as Sovereign of the Congo State announced, in consequence of the charges of gross cruelty against its officials, the appointment of a Committee of Protection, on which Catholics and Protestants of several nationalities would be represented.

21. Three thousand silver miners on strike, armed with guns and dynamite, made an attack on the Colorado and Emmets Mines. Five men were killed and many wounded, and much valuable property destroyed.

— The Cape High Commissioner ordered Colonel Baden-Powell to be placed under open arrest, pending an inquiry into the execution of the Chief N'Wini.

— The Russian Black Sea fleet left Sebastopol, having been placed on war footing, with orders to cruise within reach of the Bosphorus.

— In the Dominion House of Commons a resolution moved by Sir C. Tupper, the ex-Premier, severely censuring Lord Aberdeen's refusal to ratify the recommendations of the late Government with regard to certain judicial appointments, negatived without a division.

22. The Czar and Czaritza, accompanied by their infant child the Grand Duchess Olga, arrived at Leith, where they were received by the Prince of Wales, and at once started for Balmoral on a private visit to the Queen, passing through Dundee and Aberdeen.

— The Governor-General of the Philippines issued a decree confiscating the property of all the insurgents, who were estimated at about 15,000.

— A strike against the privilege cab system at the London railway stations commenced, causing great inconvenience, only partially overcome by the efforts of the companies to provide omnibuses and other modes of transporting luggage.

23. The Queen's reign became the longest in English history, and, notwithstanding her request that no public celebrations should take place, numerous addresses of congratulation were addressed to her Majesty from all quarters of the globe.

— A letter from Mr. Gladstone to M. Leudet of the French *Figaro* published, in which the former expressed the hope that the French nation would, on the Armenian massacres, pursue a policy worthy of its high place in the history of Europe and Christendom.

— The Anglo-Egyptian expeditionary force, having reached Dongola, met with little resistance; the Dervishes fled to the desert, abandoning their camp and supplies.

24. Mr. Gladstone attended a non-party meeting at Liverpool at which upwards of 6,000 persons were present, and spoke for an hour and a quarter on the Armenian massacres, denouncing the Sultan's Government.

— A letter from Prince Bismarck to the Governor of Texas published, in which the former avowed his preference for a double standard, and thought it advisable to bring about an understanding between the States principally interested.

— The Bank of England raised its rate of discount from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 per cent., the proportion of the reserve to the liabilities being $53\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and the stock of bullion, 41,155,169*l*.

— The British Government abandoned the proceedings for the extradition of Kearney, *alias* Wallace, and Haines, arrested at Rotterdam, the terms of the treaty with the Netherlands not covering their offences.

25. Violent and destructive gales, accompanied by heavy rains, experienced over the southern and western parts of Great Britain, causing numerous wrecks, interrupting telegraphic communication by sea and land, and occasioning much destruction of property. Three torpedo-boats had to put back to Sheerness to refit.

— The Khedive, who had been spending a week or more *incognito* in a Paris hotel, suddenly left, his identity not having been discovered until the last moment.

— In a prolonged interview with the Sultan, M. Cambon, the French Ambassador, speaking in the name of the diplomatic body, pointed out the serious dangers of the situation to Turkey and the reigning dynasty.

26. A statue of Burns unveiled at Paisley by the Earl of Rosebery, who in his speech declared that the greatest of debts owed by Scotchmen to the poet was that he kept enthusiasm alive.

— The Emperor Francis Joseph formally opened the iron gates in a dangerous part of the Danube on which 5,500,000 florins had been expended in improving the waterway.

— At the London Athletic Club W. J. Sturgess, the amateur walking champion, did a mile in 6 minutes 33½ seconds.

28. The official returns of the receipts of the Baltic and North Sea Canal for the first year showed a revenue of 897,451 marks, as compared with the official estimate of 5,000,000.

— The Austrian Emperor arrived at Bucharest on a visit to the King of Roumania, and was warmly received by the authorities and people.

— The Mahdist power having, in the opinion of the authorities, been completely shattered, the British troops employed in the Soudan were brought back to Egypt, and the head-quarters of the Egyptian Army established near Dongola.

29. Alderman Faudel-Phillips, senior alderman in rotation, elected Lord Mayor of London without opposition.

— Prince Ranjitsinhji entertained at the Guildhall, Cambridge, by a number of distinguished cricketers. The Master of Trinity proposed the guest's health.

— Serious fighting again took place in Rhodesia on the Mayoe River, where the natives appeared in force, holding the white troops in check for several hours.

— A terrible hurricane raged along the Atlantic coast of the United States, causing frightful havoc and destruction in Florida, Columbia, and throughout Pennsylvania. Great damage was done to public buildings in Washington, Savannah, Jacksonville, and other cities.

30. A treaty signed in Paris between Italy and Tunis, whereby the former, in consideration of surrendering the capitulations, received substantial commercial advantages under the French tariff.

— An Anti-Masonic Congress assembled at Trent under the special favour of the Vatican, but only 800 persons attended, of whom three-fourths were ecclesiastics. The proceedings were generally regarded as ridiculous.

— A large music-hall in Aberdeen caught fire soon after the commencement of the performance. In the stampede which ensued at least half a dozen persons were trampled to death, and thirteen others were seriously injured. The hall itself was completely destroyed.

OCTOBER.

1. Armenian indignation meetings took place all over the country, Mr. Asquith, speaking at Leven, Mr. Bryce, at Aberdeen, and others urging the peculiar obligations of this country to interfere.

— The Jockey Club Stakes at Newmarket, value 10,000*l.*, won by

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' Persimmon, 3 yrs., 9 st. 7 lbs. (J. Watts), defeating Lord Rosebery's Sir Visto, 4 yrs., 10 st. 2 lbs., by two lengths. Ten started.

1. The general elections in Sweden resulted in the return of 128 Free Traders and 102 Protectionists.

2. Said Khalid, who, after his fruitless attempt to seize the Government of Zanzibar, had taken refuge in the German Consulate, put on board a German ship of war and transferred to the mainland of the German territory.

— A terrible explosion of the powder magazine took place at Buluwayo, wrecking a large number of houses and causing the death of several whites and Kaffirs.

— The Porte declared itself willing to grant a general amnesty to institute reforms in all Asiatic provinces, and to allow the election of a new Armenian Patriarch if the Armenian Revolutionary Committee undertook to stop further dynamite outrages.

3. The motor-carriage race from Paris to Marseilles and back (1,051 miles) concluded; the winner, a motor tricycle, having accomplished the journey in 72 hours.

— The 50 miles Amateur Cycling Championship raced for at Catford Bridge, and won by Mr. W. H. Bardsley in 1 hr. 57 min. 28½ sec. Twenty-four started.

— The Czar and Czaritza left Balmoral late at night, and, travelling through Aberdeen, Perth, Carlisle, and Preston, reached Portsmouth in the evening of the following day, and went on board the imperial yacht *Polar Star*.

5. The Czar and Czaritza, having been met in mid-channel by the French fleet, received by President Faure at Cherbourg with great ceremony and cordiality.

— The National Free Labour Association opened its annual conference at Manchester, and was attended by the delegates of 150,000 members.

— Half the city of Guayaquil destroyed by fire. Four banks, all the consulates, all the hotels except one, two churches, the barracks, and the arsenal were consumed.

— Kearney and Haines, the two men arrested at Rotterdam as dynamiters, released from prison, and placed on board an American steamer bound for New York.

6. The Church Congress opened at Shrewsbury under the presidency of the Bishop of Lichfield.

— The arrival of the Czar and Czaritza in Paris was the scene of indescribable enthusiasm throughout the drive from the Ranelagh Station to the Tuileries.

7. Lord Rosebery addressed a letter to Mr. T. Ellis, the chief Liberal whip, announcing his resignation of the leadership of the Liberal party on account of his difference of opinion from many of the party on the Armenian question.

7. The Porte demanded from the Embassies the right of searching for Armenians on vessels passing Constantinople, which was unanimously refused by the Powers.

— The Czar and Czaritza spent the day in visiting the principal buildings of Paris, including Notre Dame, the Palais de Justice, the Panthéon, the Invalides, and the Académie Française, and laid the corner stone of the new Pont Alexandre III. over the Seine.

8. The British fleet cruising off Zanzibar recruited by two ships detached from the Mediterranean and the Cape Squadrons.

— Proceedings for breach of promise of marriage commenced in Brussels against Major Lothaire, recently acquitted of the manslaughter of Mr. Stokes in Central Africa, who was ordered to pay all expenses incurred by the plaintiff in connection with her projected marriage.

— The German and French officials placed on the Commission to investigate the reported outrages by the military and police of Constantinople upon the Armenians, resigned their seats as a protest against the procedure proposed.

— A gale of extreme violence broke over the western coasts of England and Ireland. The Cambrian railway was submerged at various places, and traffic suspended at Barmouth, Dolgelly, Criccieth, Llanelly, etc., and immense damage done to the towns. The Dannel Rock Light-ship foundered at her moorings off Cork Harbour, and all her hands, ten in number, were lost, and great damage was inflicted by the gale at Cork, Dublin, and Belfast. The light-ship in the Solway Firth was also driven from her moorings and wrecked.

9. Lord Rosebery addressed an enthusiastic and crowded meeting at Edinburgh in a long speech, in which he explained the reason of his withdrawal from the leadership of the Opposition, and his difference from Mr. Gladstone on the Armenian question.

— The Czar and Czaritza concluded their visit to France by attending a grand review of 70,000 troops at Châlons, and on its conclusion left for Darmstadt.

— The Victorian Assembly, Australia (after an all-night sitting), passed the second reading of the Constitution Amendment Bill, establishing female suffrage and the principle of "one man one vote."

10. Captain Manning, with a handful of troops, carried by assault a remarkable stronghold of Odete, a rebel chief in Angoniland.

— At the Kempton Park Autumn Meeting the Imperial Produce Stakes (3,000*l.*) won by Lord Rosebery's Chelandry, 9 st. 2 lbs. (J. Watts), the favourite—nine started; and the Duke of York Stakes (2,000*l.*) by Mr. Bibby's Chin Chin, 5 yrs., 6 st. 7 lbs. (H. Jones), a complete outsider—eighteen started.

11. A demonstration in favour of the Armenians took place in Hyde Park, and was attended by about 25,000 persons. Resolutions were passed calling upon the Government to take urgent steps to put a stop to the persecution.

— The Lord Mayor and Corporation of Dublin attended in state the procession to Mr. Parnell's grave in Glasnevin Cemetery.

12. At Dumbarton, N.B., the shock of an earthquake or some similar disturbance threw a large steamer thirty feet from her moorings; caused the formation of a new bank, about 100 ft. in circumference, in the harbour, and the collapse of several high chimneys and buildings in the town.

— A German Socialist Congress, attended by 300 delegates, opened at Gotha. Herren Singer and Boch, both members of the Reichstag, were elected President and Vice-President respectively.

— The French Council of State, having duly considered the demand for the extradition of Patrick Tynan, submitted to the Minister of Justice the reasons for not agreeing thereto, and Tynan was subsequently set at liberty.

13. Lord Dufferin presented to President Faure his letter of recall from the post of British Ambassador at Paris.

— The Sirdar Sir H. Kitchener and members of his staff arrived at Cairo from the Soudan.

— At Newmarket the Champion Stakes won by the Duke of Westminster's Labrador, 3 yrs., 8 st. 6 lbs. (M. Cannon), defeating the favourite, Lord Rosebery's Sir Visto, 9 st. Four ran.

14. The Executive Committee of the National Liberal Federation, having been called together, passed a resolution expressing regret at Lord Rosebery's decision, but recognised that his object was to promote unity in the party.

— A serious fire broke out in the tobacco stores of Messrs. Gallaher in Clerkenwell, which were totally destroyed with their contents.

— At Newmarket the Cesarewitch Stakes won by Mr. W. Low's St. Bois, 3 yrs., 6 st. 6 lb. (H. Cannon), an outsider. Fifteen started. Subsequently the Middle Park Plate for two-year-olds won by Mr. J. Gubbin's Galtee More, 9 st. (M. Cannon), an Irish horse, easily defeating the favourite and hitherto unbeaten Lord Rosebery's Velasquez.

15. Dr. Kayser, Director of the Colonial Department at the Imperial Foreign Office at Berlin, resigned in consequence of the attacks of a section of the Colonial party. His place was taken by Baron von Richthofen.

— A station on the Quetta Railway attacked by a party of the Marzi tribe, and all the staff except the stationmaster killed.

16. Archbishop Benson interred with great pomp and solemnity in Canterbury Cathedral, the Duke of York, the Archbishops of York and Dublin, and several bishops attending. Funeral services were simultaneously held at Westminster Abbey, York, Dublin, and the Cathedrals of the Southern Province. Archbishop Benson was the first Archbishop of Canterbury buried in that cathedral since the Reformation.

— In view of an approaching famine in various parts of India due to a prolonged drought, plans for relief works and methods of transporting grain published in the various governments affected.

17. The Elcho Challenge Shield, won by England at the Bisley Meeting of the National Rifle Association, handed over to the Lord Mayor of London for custody in the Guildhall.

17. The Spanish cruiser *Princesa de Asturias*, which had grounded in mud whilst being launched at Carracea, near Cadiz, a month previously, quietly slipped into the water of her own accord.

— At Athens the Court Martial appointed to try the officers who had left their regiments and gone off to Crete to join the insurrection acquitted all the accused by four votes to one.

— A landslip occurred on the Paris and Lyons Railway near Ambérieu (between Mâcon and Geneva), 400 yards of the hill-side slipping down and burying a train of forty workmen and a railway cabin containing eight persons, none of whom were extricated alive.

19. The Duke of Cambridge attended a meeting of the Common Council to receive an address in recognition of his long services as Commander-in-Chief. A marble bust of the duke was unveiled at the same time.

— A sedate and impressive meeting held at St. James' Hall, presided over by the Bishop of Rochester, and attended by upwards of 100 provincial mayors, to express sympathy with the Armenians and to protest against the barbarous rule of the Turks. An important letter from Mr. Gladstone was read, and speeches were made by prominent laymen and clergy, irrespective of Church and party.

— The Harveian oration at the Royal College of Physicians delivered by Dr. J. F. Payne, on Harvey's indebtedness to Galen.

20. Serious floods, caused by recent heavy rains, reported from the continent. At Rome the Tiber overflowed its banks over a considerable stretch, doing much damage. The Rhone at Avignon was so high that half the town was under water, and in other places the losses occasioned were most serious.

— Lord Rosebery attended the Colchester Oyster Feast, said to have been annually celebrated since the days of William and Mary, and reiterated his opinion against the single-handed action of England in the East.

— A serious attack made on the south-western frontier of the Central African Protectorate (Nyassaland) by the Angoni Zulus under Chikusi.

21. "Trafalgar Day" celebrated with much public display both in London and the provinces, the Nelson column in Trafalgar Square being decked from base to crown by the Navy League.

— A special service for doctors, on the occasion of the festival of the Guild of St. Luke, held in St. Paul's Cathedral, and attended by upwards of 1,000 doctors.

— Several persons sentenced at Düsseldorf to fines and imprisonment for criticising the findings of a Military Court of Honour on the question of duelling.

— Captain Stewart, who had been despatched from Zomba against the insurgent Angoni chief Chikusi, reached his kraal after a most laborious march, and attacked the fortress, driving out the Angoni and capturing their chief.

22. Mr. Goschen, as President of the Midland Institute, delivered an address at Birmingham on international prejudice in its relation to politics, commerce, and good will.

— Considerable excitement aroused in London in consequence of the statement that a Chinese gentleman, resident in London, had been kidnapped in the street and forcibly detained for ten days in the Chinese Legation on the ground of having taken part in a conspiracy before leaving China. On the facts becoming known, Lord Salisbury at once insisted upon his release, which was accorded.

— Princeton University celebrated the 150th anniversary of its foundation in the presence of delegates from other universities all over the world.

— The Bank of England raised its rate of discount from 3 to 4 per cent., the reserve standing at 25,919,558*l.*, or 50½ per cent. of the liabilities, and the coin and bullion at 35,099,178*l.*

23. An imperial *iradé* published imposing a poll-tax of five piastres on all Turkish subjects, and a further sheep-tax to meet expenditure upon increased armaments.

— Madame Doreaux who in 1887 had been convicted of the murder of her husband and brother-in-law and sentenced to penal servitude, tried again at Amiens, acquitted, and awarded 40,000 frs. for false imprisonment.

— Much excitement caused throughout Germany and Austria by the publication in the *Hambürger Nachrichten*, Prince Bismarck's special organ, of the existence of a secret treaty between Germany and Russia, concluded in 1882, almost immediately after the Triple Alliance had been arranged between Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy.

24. Right Rev. Dr. Temple, Bishop of London, nominated to the Archbishopric of Canterbury in succession to Dr. Benson.

— Sir Henry Irving laid the foundation-stone of the new library to be erected at Dulwich on land given by the Governors of Dulwich College.

— Severn End House, near Worcester, the ancient mansion of the Lechmere family, which had been in occupation since the reign of Henry VII., completely destroyed by fire with most of its valuable contents.

— The marriage of the Prince of Naples and the Princess Helena of Montenegro celebrated at Rome in the presence of the King and Queen of Italy.

26. Li Hung Chang, having returned to Peking, appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs by imperial edict, and at the same time awarded punishment "for presuming to enter the precincts of the ruined Summer Palace while visiting the Empress-Dowager."

— Sir William Macgregor reached Brisbane after a careful exploration of New Guinea, and gave his opinion that the interior of the island was highly auriferous. The natives had throughout his journey been friendly.

26. An unsuccessful attempt made at Constantinople by four discontented Armenians to assassinate Mgr. Bartolomeos, the *locum tenens* of the Armenian Patriarch, on the ground of his subserviency to the Palace.

— A treaty of peace concluded between Italy and Abyssinia, including the recognition of the absolute independence of Ethiopia, the agreement to the Mareb-Belesa-Muna boundary line, and the release of all Italian prisoners.

27. The western section of the Siberian Railway, from Cheliabinsk to the Obi, 889 miles, with a branch from Cheliabinsk to Ekaterinburg, 158 miles, opened for regular traffic.

— M. Averoff, a Greek merchant of Alexandria, who had already supplied funds for the partial restoration of the Stadion at Athens, addressed a letter to the Crown Prince of Greece offering to defray the entire cost, estimated at 3,500,000 drachmas, of reconstructing the Stadion in Pentelic marble.

— Captain John Marriott of the Norfolk Regiment, whilst shooting in the neighbourhood of Smyrna, captured by brigands, and held to ransom for 15,000*l.*, but released after a week's detention.

28. The hearing of the breach of promise of marriage case brought against Major Lothaire in the Brussels Courts brought to a conclusion.

— At the Newmarket Houghton Meeting the Cambridgeshire Stakes won easily by Mr. J. C. Sullivan's Winkfield's Pride, 3 yrs., 6 st. 10 lbs. (Robinson), the favourite at starting, but a few days previously had been an apparently hopeless outsider. Twenty-four started.

— An extraordinary falling off took place in the British Columbia seal catch. The skins brought back numbered 55,247, or 40,000 less than in 1894, and 20,000 less than in 1895.

— A terrible cyclone swept over Seville, wrecking several houses, suspending street traffic, and causing a general panic.

29. In the Victorian Upper House at Melbourne the Women's Suffrage Bill and the bill for "one man one vote" passed by large majorities.

— The London Cabdrivers' Union decided upon a general strike against the privilege system, and great inconvenience was caused to the public by the refusal of cabmen to drive passengers with luggage into the railway stations.

— The Czar and his family, after a quiet visit of nearly three weeks, left Darmstadt on their return to Russia.

— Judgment delivered by the Court at Elizabethpol, in the Caucasus, in the case of the Dukhobortsi or Spiritual Wrestlers, for refusal to submit to military service and other offences. Twenty-eight persons were brought to trial and condemned to various terms of imprisonment, but a rider to the judgment exempted them from all punishment by the terms of the Coronation Manifesto.

30. General Gallieni, French Resident in Madagascar, caused the Hova Minister of the Interior, and an uncle of the Queen, to be executed for complicity with the rebellion. The Hova Prime Minister resigned, but no successor was appointed.

30. The cost of the reception of the Czar in France, originally estimated at 12,000,000 francs, declared not to exceed 5,500,000.

— The Hungarian Liberal Ministry in the general election obtained two-thirds of the new House as its supporters.

— The report of the Welsh Land Commission appointed in 1893 by Mr. Gladstone published, together with a long list of recommendations.

31. Rt. Rev. Dr. Mandell Creighton, Bishop of Peterborough, translated to the Bishopric of London, in succession to Dr. Temple, the Rev. the Hon. E. Carr-Glyn, Vicar of Kensington, succeeding Dr. Creighton.

— Mr. Chamberlain elected Lord Rector of Glasgow University by an aggregate of 751 votes against 517 given to Mr. A. Birrell, M.P.; obtaining also a majority in each of the "Nations."

— Heavy rains in France caused the Seine to rise to a great height, causing enormous damage to the low-lying parts of Paris, and to the islands along the course of the river.

NOVEMBER.

2. The municipal elections throughout England and Wales showed that in boroughs where politics entered into the contest the principal gains of the Radicals were five seats in Leeds, three each in Bury and Warrington, and two each in Taunton, Portsmouth, Devonport, Walsall, Cheltenham, etc.; and of the Conservatives four seats at Norwich, three in Manchester, two each in Stockport, Stockton-on-Tees, Chatham, etc. At Gloucester the Conservatives lost seven seats, chiefly to Labour candidates.

— The boycott of the London railway stations by the cab-owners removed; but the strike was otherwise maintained.

— A European disguised as a Dervish arrested in the neighbourhood of Suakim, and subsequently identified as Karl Enger, formerly an officer in the Austrian army, who had renounced his nationality and taken service with the Mahdi.

3. The voting for the electors on whom devolved the choice of President of the United States took place throughout the Union. The Republican "sound-money" candidate, Mr. McKinley, was supported by 274 to 175 votes for Mr. Bryan, the silverite Democrat, in the Electoral College. In the House of Representatives the Republicans also obtained a slight majority.

— The Russian Ambassador at Paris, on behalf of the Czar, placed a costly wreath in gold and enamel on the tomb of M. Carnot in the Panthéon.

— Five lives were lost in a fire which broke out in a fish shop receiving lodgers in the Caledonian Road, Islington.

4. Mr. Poynter, R.A., elected President of the Royal Academy by nineteen votes against seventeen given to Mr. Briton Riviere. On the same occasion Mr. T. G. Jackson, A.R.A., architect, elected a full academician.

4. The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the sheriffs, opened the Cripplegate Institute, erected and equipped at a cost of 50,000*l.*, to promote the cause of secondary and technical education in the western half of the city of London.

— Archduchess Maria Dorothea of Austria, in anticipation of her marriage, formally renounced her rights of succession to the throne.

5. The marriage of the Archduchess Maria Dorothea of Austria and the Duke of Orleans, eldest son of the Comte de Paris, took place in the private chapel of the Burg Palace at Vienna.

— Lord Portman's claim of 400,000*l.* for fourteen acres of land of the Marylebone estate, required by the Manchester, Sheffield & Lincoln Railway, reduced by the arbitrator to 260,000*l.*

— The express train from Madrid to Barcelona came into collision with another train at Chipriana Station, seriously injuring a number of passengers, including the new Governor of the Philippines, on his way to take up his appointment.

6. At a meeting of the British South Africa Company, after a stormy discussion, the proposal of the directors to raise a further sum of 1,000,000*l.* sterling to meet the heavy expenses of administration was agreed to.

— At Versailles Assizes Arton, whose previous conviction had been quashed for informalities, convicted of embezzlement from the Transvaal Dynamite Company, and sentenced to eight years' imprisonment.

7. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, the Unionist candidate, elected Lord Rector of the Edinburgh University by 990 votes to 771 given to Mr. R. B. Haldane, Q.C., M.P., the Radical nominee.

— The extensive premises of Messrs. Shand, Mason & Co., fire engine makers and hydraulic engineers at Blackfriars, almost totally destroyed by fire, together with their contents.

— The Sultan, after a long interview with the French Ambassador, M. Cambon, ordered the execution of a series of measures intended to show his earnestness in the cause of reform.

8. Serious grain riots took place at Sholapur, in the Bombay Presidency, where a mob of 5,000 persons looted a grain store. The police were forced to fire before the rioters, of whom four were killed, could be dispersed.

— Between 1 A.M. and 6 A.M. the railway bridge over the Ouse, on the Great Eastern main line near Ely, was completely removed, and a new wrought-iron single-span bridge, 135 feet long and weighing 300 tons, erected in its place.

9. At the Guildhall banquet, inaugurating Mr. Faudel-Phillips' tenure of office as Lord Mayor, Lord Salisbury made a hopeful speech on the state of foreign affairs in Europe and America.

— The election of mayors for boroughs throughout England and Wales resulted in the return of 156 Conservatives, 110 Radicals, and 33 Liberal Unionists. In eight cases no politics were given.

9. General Brassine, the Belgian Minister of War, resigned office in consequence of the unwillingness of his colleagues to redeem their pledges of military reform.

10. At Bradford the triangular contest resulted in the return of Captain Greville (Unionist), who received 4,921 votes against 4,526 given to Mr. Billson (Radical) and 1,953 for Mr. Keir Hardie (Independent Labour).

— The American Commission on the Venezuelan boundary question issued a statement that, in view of the probable settlement of the question by arbitration, it did not propose to issue any final decision on the pending differences.

11. The report of the Committee of Inquiry into the Queensland National Bank showed that the liabilities were in excess of the assets by 2,436,000*l.*, the whole of the paid-up capital, the amount at credit of profit and loss account, the interest, the contingency and suspense accounts, altogether 1,183,000*l.*, having been lost.

— The construction of railways in China, in the provinces of Hankow, Canton and Suchow, sanctioned by the Tsung-li-Yamên, and permission issued to borrow 20,000,000 taels for the purpose.

12. The ceremony of swearing in the recruits of the Berlin and Spandau garrisons took place before an altar erected in front of the Royal Palace at Berlin. The Emperor, who was present, afterwards made a short speech.

— The Earl of Lonsdale speaking at Whitehaven said that he had the German Emperor's authority for declaring that, in sending the famous telegram to President Krüger after the Jameson raid, nothing was further from his Majesty's mind than to express anything antagonistic to England.

13. Colston's Day celebrated at Bristol with the customary banquets. At the Dolphin (Conservative) the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary for War were the chief speakers; at the Anchor (Liberal) the Earl of Crewe.

— At the Liverpool Autumn Meeting the Cup was won by M. Lebaudy's Count Schomberg, 4 yrs., 7 st. 11 lbs. (S. Loates). Fourteen started.

— The Calvert expedition which left Adelaide in May to explore the unknown regions of Central Australia reached the Fitzroy River Settlement in the north of Western Australia.

14. The use of motor-cars on highways under the Act inaugurated by a journey from London to Brighton. Shortly after 10.30 A.M. a start was effected, fifty-four carriages of different kinds—chiefly foreign—having met on the Victoria Embankment. Of these thirteen reached Brighton, the earliest at 2.30 P.M.

— The Marquess of Huntly (Unionist) elected Lord Rector of the Aberdeen University for the third time, receiving 315 votes against 300 given to Professor Murison (Radical).

14. Norfolk Island, which since 1855 had enjoyed absolute freedom from control, endowed with a constitution under the Government of New South Wales, to be administered by a Resident Magistrate. Lord Hampden, the Governor of the latter colony, on a visit to the island, formally promulgated the new code.

— The Russian cruiser *Zaporozhetz* touched at Rehita, on the coast of the Red Sea, and landed troops and seamen, who marked out a square mile of land facing the sea, laid down buoys on the coast, and hoisted the Russian flag under a guard of forty men. On hearing, however, that this portion of the coast formed part of the Italian Protectorate, they sailed away.

16. In the German Reichstag Count Hompesch, on behalf of the Centre party, interpellated the Government with regard to the recent Bismarck revelations. The Chancellor (Prince Hohenlohe) and the Minister of Foreign Affairs (Baron Marschall von Bieberstein) both spoke, but gave little information.

— The gold pattern “five-broad,” given by Charles I. on the scaffold to Bishop Juxon, and known to collectors as the Juxon Medal, sold in the Montagu collection for 770*l.*, the highest price ever paid for a single coin in this country. It subsequently passed to the British Museum.

— The works at Niagara Falls for generating electricity for the use of the lighting, traction and all the industries of Buffalo, 26 miles distant, inaugurated.

17. The London County Council on the report of the Works Committee ordered the dismissal of certain officers of the Works Department, and accepted the resignation of others concerned in “cooking” the accounts of that branch.

— The elopement of Princess Elvire de Bourbon, daughter of Don Carlos, with Count Folchi, a Roman painter, reported from Sarreggio.

18. St. George’s Church, Hanover Square, seriously injured by a fire originating in the belfry through the fusion of electric wires.

— The National Union of Conservative Associations held its conference at Rochdale, and was attended by Mr. Balfour and other leaders of the party.

— A French torpedo boat sunk by collision with another torpedo boat off Cap de la Chèvre near Brest, but all on board, with one exception, escaped with their lives.

19. The University of Paris inaugurated in the New Sorbonne with much ceremony in the presence of the President, the Ministers, the Diplomatic Corps, and the Academicians.

— At the Cutlers’ Feast at Sheffield Mr. A. J. Balfour, as the principal guest, returned thanks on behalf of the Ministry.

— The House of Lords gave judgment in the appeal of *Clarke v. the Earl of Dunraven*, in which the former claimed, under the rules of the Yacht Racing Association, the full value of his yacht *Satanita*—*viz.*, 7,500*l.*—which had been run down in the Firth of Clyde by the *Valkyrie*. The claim was sustained, the parties having contracted themselves out of the Merchant Shipping Act.

20. The Prussian Diet opened by commission, the Chancellor, Prince Hohenlohe, reading the speech from the throne, which laid stress on the improvement in Prussian finances.

— A considerable quantity of rain fell in the Madras and Bombay coast districts, extending inland as far as Poona; thus relieving to some extent the anxiety with regard to those districts.

— The Derby Cup (2,000 sovs.) won by Sir J. Miller's La Sagesse, 4 yrs., 7 st. 5 lbs. (S. Loates). Twenty-three started.

— In consequence of a strike of the gasworkers of Bordeaux the city was left in almost total darkness, and soldiers had to be called upon to assist, as far as possible, at the gasworks. After four days' temporising the men returned to work upon improved terms.

21. Urgent representations received from several West Indian colonies as to the critical position of the sugar industry, arising out of the large bounties given by continental Governments to beetroot sugar.

— A great strike of dock labourers commenced at Hamburg by the refusal of 2,500 men to accept the existing conditions.

— The French proposals for reorganising the financial position of Turkey on the basis of the Egyptian *Caisse de la dette publique* rejected by Russia.

22. At Bordeaux, whilst the election of a deputy was proceeding, the successful candidate, M. Ferret, died just before the close of the poll.

23. A fire broke out in a dwelling-house in Dorset Street, Portman Square, when three women were burnt to death or suffocated and a fourth killed in leaping from the window.

— The first congress of the Christian Socialist party, founded by Pastors Naumann and Gölna, met at Erfurt.

— The Spanish troops in the Philippines defeated by the rebels with the loss of 300 men.

24. Archbishop Langevin of Winnipeg denounced the settlement of the Manitoba schools question, and ordered the opening of ten separate schools to be maintained at the expense of the Church.

— The Sadrazam (Persian Minister-in-Chief) tendered his resignation, which was accepted by the Shah, and a new Ministry formed wholly under the Shah's personal presidency.

— In consequence of a recent rainfall, extending over a large area, the Viceroy of India reported that the prospects had greatly improved in the Deccan, markedly in Central India and sensibly in the North-west.

25. General protests made by the Viennese nobles against the conferring of the Order of the Golden Fleece upon the Duc d'Orléans, on the ground that he did not fulfil the necessary conditions of eight legitimate Catholic ancestors on both sides.

— The turbulent proceedings in the Vienna Municipal Council culminated in the withdrawal of the Liberal minority, as a protest against the high-handed proceedings of Dr. Lueger and the Anti-Semitic majority.

25. Signor Cecchi, Italian Consul General in Zanzibar, the commanders of two Italian war vessels, with seven officers and three men, massacred by a troop of nomad Somalis on the Benadir coast, North-eastern Africa.

26. A serious fire broke out in a large leather manufacturer's warehouse in Bermondsey, and owing to a defective supply of water the whole of the premises and the contents destroyed.

— The French Chamber after two days' debate rejected by 326 to 237 votes the motion to place under lay control within two years all schools at present conducted by nuns.

— The German Navy Estimates presented to the Reichstag required 129,359,545 marks for the ensuing year. Between 1874 and 1890 the naval budget had increased from 39,000,000 to 55,000,000 marks.

— A thunderstorm of unequalled violence and duration broke over Athens and the Piræus, doing much damage, and causing a serious loss of life. The river Ilissos rose 20 ft., carrying away all bridges except two; the Cephissos also overflowed, submerging the railways and all the lower portion of the town.

27. Mr. Tom Mann, who had been directing the Hamburg strike from Altona, quietly arrested at the former place and put on board a steamer leaving for Grimsby.

— At an interview with Sir Edgar Vincent the Sultan declared that he was not prepared to accept a loan on the condition of financial control.

— Capt. Welby, 17th Hussars, and Lieut. Malcolm, of the Sutherland Highlanders, reached Pekin, having travelled across Thibet by a new north-eastern route from Leh, which they left on 4th May.

28. An electric railway between Brighton and Rottingdean opened, the rails of which would be covered by the sea except at ebb tide, and the cars elevated 34 ft. above the rails.

— Nearly thirty persons killed at Baroda in consequence of two crowds coming together in a narrow road, on the occasion of the viceroy's visit to the People's Park.

30. At the anniversary meeting of the Royal Society the medals of the year were thus awarded: Copley Medal to Prof. C. Gegenbauer (comparative anatomy); Rumford Medals to Prof. P. Lenard and Prof. C. W. Röntgen (electrical phenomena); Royal Medals to Sir Archibald Geikie (geology) and Prof. C. V. Boys (photography); the Davy Medal to Prof. Henri Moissan of Paris (electricity), and the Darwin Medal to Prof. Giovanni Battista Grassi (natural history).

— A triangular block of buildings, seven storeys high, in Forster Square, Bradford (Yorks), totally destroyed by fire, causing damage estimated at 175,000*l*.

DECEMBER.

1. On account of the unfavourable report made on Dr. Jameson's health, consequent upon his having undergone an operation, the Home Secretary ordered his release as soon as he was in a state to be removed from Holloway Prison.

— The Burgomaster (M. Buls) and Liberal members of the Brussels Municipal Council resigned in consequence of the adoption by the Chamber of Representatives of a resolution passed by the Socialists and Clericals allowing all workmen in municipal employ a minimum wage of 3 frs. a day.

— The Italian Ministry, in the absence of a sufficient quorum of the Chamber, escaped a serious defeat, the majority insisting upon the evacuation of Erythrea.

2. A fire broke out in an attic over the grand saloon in Blenheim Palace, and was not extinguished until the greater portion of the famous ceiling, painted by Laguerre, was nearly destroyed by fire and water.

— The Appeal Court of the mixed Tribunals at Alexandria gave judgment in the action concerning the advance of 500,000*l.* for the Dongola expedition, and condemned the Egyptian Government to refund the money to the Caisse of the Public Debt.

— The Hamburg Shipowners' Association decided to reject the proposal of a special board of arbitration to settle with the men actually on strike.

3. Mr. Conyngham-Greene, the newly appointed Resident at Pretoria, declined to receive an address from the British inhabitants unless the words relating to "the supremacy of the empire in this part of the world" were omitted.

— The Danish Folkthing unanimously adopted a resolution in favour of the neutrality of Denmark in the event of war between other Powers.

— Serious floods took place in the island of Montserrat, resulting in the loss of seventy-five lives and the destruction of roads and bridges. The islands of Trinidad, St. Vincent, etc., also suffered severely from the effects of the cyclone.

4. The Brighton Chain Pier, erected in 1823, completely destroyed by the sea during a severe south-easterly gale, which did enormous damage to the town and along the coast.

— The Central Strike Committee at Hamburg, in consequence of the refusal of the masters to arbitrate, declared a general strike of all labourers employed in and about the harbour.

— The President of the United States by proclamation re-established tonnage duties on German vessels arriving in American ports.

5. The Ursuline Convent at Avignon distrained upon for refusal to pay the monastic tax of 5,000 frs.; the nuns, however, being the only bidders, it was knocked down to them at that price.

— A student demonstration in memory of the catastrophe on Khodinski Plain suppressed by order of the Russian Government, the

students who wished to attend the "granachida" being detained in custody for several hours.

7. The trial at Berlin of two journalists named Leckert and von Lützow for libel in connection with an incorrect version of the Czar's speech at Breslau ended in their conviction, and the arrest of the Chief Commissioner of the Secret Police for perjury.

— President Cleveland sent his final address to Congress, in which he suggested that peaceful means might be found to deal with the Cuban question.

— Much agitation occasioned by the action of the London and North-Western Railway in dealing with men belonging to the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, from which hostile action was being anticipated.

— Antonio Maceo, a mulatto, the most conspicuous leader of the Cuban revolt, killed in an engagement with the Spanish troops, after having penetrated the Spanish line of defence with a small following.

8. Sir E. Monson, British Ambassador to France, presented his credentials to the President of the Republic, by whom he was most courteously received.

— Terms of a treaty between China and Russia published, by which the former conceded to the latter the right of making a railway across Manchuria, connecting Port Arthur with the Trans-Siberian railway.

— Lord Wolseley unveiled at Perth a monument erected to commemorate the raising of the 90th Regiment in 1794 by Thomas Graham, afterwards Lord Lynedoch.

9. A magnificent *fête* in honour of Madame Sarah Bernhardt, the actress, held in Paris, attended by representatives of art, literature, politics, and society.

— At Abernant, South Wales, a colliery working suddenly inundated by an inrush of water, but out of 120 in the pit all except five were eventually saved.

— The annual football match (Rugby rules) between Oxford and Cambridge played at Queen's Ground, Kensington, and won, after an exciting game, by Oxford by two goals (one dropped) to a goal and a try.

— The North German Lloyd steamship *Salier*, from Coruña to Vitra Garcia, lost in a gale off Cape Corubedo with all on board—65 crew and 210 passengers, chiefly Russian and Spanish.

10. Lord Rosebery presided at Edinburgh at an influential meeting to further a memorial to Robert L. Stevenson.

— At an election at the French Academy to fill the seats vacant by the deaths of MM. Alexander Dumas and Léon Say, M. Theuriet, a poet and novelist, and M. Albert Vandal, an historian, were elected; M. Zola receiving only four votes at each ballot.

11. The dispute arising between the London and North-Western Railway Company and a few of its servants settled through the intervention of the President of the Board of Trade; the secretary of the

Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants having given an assurance that no strike was contemplated. The dismissed men were promised to be reinstated.

11. The Queensland Government, in face of the strong opposition threatened in Parliament, decided to abandon the Federation Bill and to send no delegates to the Federal Council.

— At Xeres a large house, in which upwards of 100 persons were living, collapsed without warning, burying all the occupants, of whom only a portion were rescued alive.

12. The Ambassadors at the Porte met and presented a note demanding the recall of Said Eddin Pasha, the Ottoman special envoy to Crete, within forty-eight hours.

— A service was held in St. Marylebone Parish Church, at which the Dean of Canterbury preached the sermon, in commemoration of the marriage there in 1846 of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Browning.

14. The Orient steamship *Orotava*, while coaling in Tilbury Dock, suddenly listed over, and, the starboard port-holes being open, she rapidly filled with water, causing the death of five men working on board.

— The disturbances begun among the university students of Moscow, on account of the Khodinski commemorative service, spread to the students at Kieff, Kazan, and St. Petersburg Universities, causing the application of severely repressive measures.

— A wave of earthquake, passing from east to west, passed over the province of Wermland, in Sweden, extending as far as Laurvik, in Norway.

15. Mr. Cecil Rhodes' beautiful house, Groot Schur, a few miles from Cape Town, burnt down, and all its valuable contents destroyed.

— Said Eddin Pasha, the Sultan's special commissioner to Crete, recalled; the Porte further promising, under pressure, to issue an amnesty to the Armenians.

16. A large match factory at Aschaffenburg wrecked by an explosion which killed twenty persons and seriously injured twice that number.

— The Spanish troops scattered through the Philippine Islands concentrated at Manila for the protection of the seat of government.

— Dingaan's Day celebrated at Krügersdorp by a gathering of 5,000 burghers, who paraded before the President and officers of the Republic.

17. Shocks of an earthquake lasting fifteen seconds experienced over the greater part of England, but most severely felt in Wales and the West Midlands. At Hereford the pinnacle of St. Nicholas Church fell, and damage was done to the cathedral. In other towns chimneys, old houses, etc., suffered.

— The German Emperor conferred a decoration upon the French *savant* Dr. Roux for his discovery with Dr. Belering of the vaccine against diphtheria.

18. The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations at Washington agreed to recommend to Congress a joint resolution acknowledging the independence of Cuba.

— Serious mortality reported in Bombay and other towns from bubonic or Egyptian plague, the weekly returns showing that the area was extending and the cases more numerous.

— The Italian Chamber by 263 to 26 passed a bill granting an allowance of 1,000,000 lire per annum to the Prince of Naples on his marriage, the King having sent a message to say that he would pay an equal sum to the Treasury out of his Civil List.

19. At Reschitza in Hungary a colliery explosion caused the death of upwards of sixty miners and seriously injured twenty more.

— The first batch of Italian prisoners released under the treaty of peace with Abyssinia arrived at the Somali coast.

— At the Lyceum Theatre, on the occasion of the first night of the revival of "Richard III.," Sir Henry Irving met with an accident, which caused the performance to be suspended for several weeks.

21. Mr. Cameron's report and resolution on the Cuban question presented to the United States Senate, and further proceedings postponed until after the holidays.

— Eight anarchists tried at Barcelona by court martial, no reporters being admitted. Four were condemned to death, and the others to terms of imprisonment varying from eight to nineteen years.

22. The Prince of Wales formally opened the Davy-Faraday Research Laboratory (attached to the Royal Institution), erected and endowed by Dr. Ludwig Mond at a cost of upwards of 100,000*l*.

— The election of Dr. Temple as Archbishop of Canterbury confirmed at St. Mary-le-Bow Church, Cheapside, notwithstanding the protest of two formal "opposers," on the ground that Dr. Temple was a believer in the doctrine of evolution.

— The French Minister of the Colonies announced that General Gallieni, the Governor of Madagascar, had almost completely mastered the insurrection in Imerina.

23. Amberley Cottage, Earl Russell's house, near Boulton's Lock, on the Thames, totally destroyed by a fire, supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

— An imperial ordinance issued in St. Petersburg giving the Czar's formal sanction to the Eastern Chinese Railway Company, to be completed in six years, and fixing the capital at 5,000,000 paper roubles.

— The Portuguese authorities at Lorenzo Marques formally apologised for the recent affronts offered to the German Consul.

24. Three convicts working in the quarries at Dartmouth attempted to escape under cover of the fog. One was shot down and killed, a second secured after a short chase, and the third arrested at Devonport two days later.

24. Mr. Cecil Rhodes on his way from Durban to Cape Town received a popular ovation at Port Elizabeth from all classes of colonists, and was similarly greeted on his arrival at Cape Town.

25. A rising of natives took place at Pokwani, on the border of British Bechuanaland, under the chief Galishove. After a brisk fight they were dislodged and dispersed by the mounted-police force.

— The Japanese Diet opened by commission. In the speech from the throne the increased cordiality of the empire with foreign states and the requirements of the island of Formosa were the principal points.

— The long-lost birth-place of Buddha discovered almost by accident in the Zillah of Butaul, in the Nepal Terai. The spot was indicated by a monolith, partially covered up, but erected by Asoka about B.C. 239.

26. The remains of M. Pasteur, temporarily deposited in Notre Dame, removed to the Pasteur Institute.

28. The 12th Indian National Congress, attended by about 700 delegates, met at Calcutta, under the presidency of Mr. R. M. Sayani, a member of the Viceroy's Council.

— Serious floods occurred in various parts of Greece, by which railway communication between Corinth and Patras was interrupted, the drainage works at Lake Copais damaged, and severe loss of life and property occasioned.

— A crowded and influential meeting held at the Dublin Mansion House, the Lord Mayor presiding, and attended by Irishmen of all creeds, rank and political opinions, to demand redress on the subject of taxation. Other meetings were held in various parts of the country.

— At Rathmore, near Killarney, Co. Kerry, 200 acres of bog moved from its position and travelled slowly for about twenty-four hours, destroying everything in its passage of over ten miles, and swallowing up a cottage containing ten persons, all of whom, except one, lost their lives.

29. Sir Julian Pauncefote and Mr. Olney, on behalf of their respective Governments, agreed at Washington to a general arbitration treaty on the lines set forth by Lord Salisbury.

30. The trial of three persons charged with the murder of M. Stamboloff concluded at Sofia, one being acquitted and the other two condemned to three years' imprisonment, to reckon from the time of their original arrest.

— At Plymouth Sound, where extensive submarine works were going on, a charge of dynamite exploded under a steam-drilling barge, which was capsized, and three out of a crew of fifty men were drowned, the others being rescued by the boats of neighbouring ships.

31. After a strike lasting for fifteen weeks, and ineffectual efforts by the Board of Trade to effect a compromise, Lord Penrhyn closed the works at his slate quarries at Bala, North Wales, throwing upwards of 3,000 quarrymen out of work.

— The Czar authorised collections to be made throughout the Russian empire for the benefit of Armenian immigrants from Turkey.

RETROSPECT

OF

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART IN 1896.

LITERATURE.

THE tendency of the serious literature of the year is towards greater specialisation. No comprehensive work has been written on

HISTORY,

nothing that will rank as monumental. Much valuable light, however, has been thrown on particular reigns and portions of reigns through the assiduous study and editing of **State Papers**. Messrs. Gairdner and Brodie have finished the first and second parts of volume xiv. of **Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic**, of the Reign of Henry VIII. These fresh instalments cover the part of 1593 during which the king's matrimonial schemes were pressing, the possible alliance between the Emperor and Francis I. was a cause of alarm abroad, and the dissolution of monasteries was proceeding at home. Incidents in the reign of Queen Elizabeth have received minute study from Martin A. S. Hume, whose third volume of the **Calendar of Letters and State Papers** comprises a translation of 500 despatches, preserved mainly in the Spanish Archives, written by the famous Spanish Ambassador Bernadino de Mendoza, 1580-6, when Spain was preparing the Armada, and supporting the Irish insurgents; when, also, Queen Elizabeth's popularity waned owing to her projected marriage with the Duke d'Alençon. As a minor outcome of his editorship Mr. Hume has written an entertaining account of **The Courtships of Queen Elizabeth**, followed by an equally attractive volume of essays, **The Year after the Armada** and other Historical Studies (Unwin). Further contributions to this important period are to be found in volumes xi., xii. of **Acts of the Privy Council**, from 1578-81, edited by T. R. Dasent, giving glimpses of the Muscovy Company, the Iceland fishing fleet, the religious questions in England; also in Bishop Mandell Creighton's sumptuous volume on **Queen Elizabeth** (Boussod, Valadon) with forty illustrations from usually inaccessible quarters, being an "attempt to bring together the most remarkable portraits of Elizabeth and her contemporaries, from sources hitherto little known." Mr. Froude's posthumous volume on **The Council of Trent** (Longmans) contains the first of three courses of lectures delivered while the author was Regius Professor of Modern History at Oxford. Half the book is

an account of the reforming influences in Germany, out of which the council grew. Mr. Froude believes that the Reformation was inevitable; brought about by the revolt of the laity against the corruption of the Church and the oppression of the ecclesiastical powers. Mr. T. H. Wylie, M.A., has finished the third volume of his **History of England under Henry the Fourth** (Longmans), dealing with the years 1407-10; and devoted mainly to special subjects, such as the Papal Schism, the story of the Orleanist and Burgundian factions in France. **The Lost Possessions of England**, by Walter Fremmen Lord (Bentley), gives a vivid account of British rule in Dunkirk, Tangiers, Minorca, Cuba, Corsica, the Ionian Isles, etc. **The Balance of Power**, by Arthur Hassall, is an ably written survey of European history in the eighteenth century, contributed to the "Periods of European History" (Rivington), of which the author is general editor. Another series of papers that are of historic rather than biographic interest are **The Paget Papers** (Heinemann), the diplomatic and other correspondence of the Right Hon. Sir Arthur Paget, G.C.B., 1794-1807, with appendices pertaining to 1808-29. They form a valuable contribution to the history of perhaps the most critical period of the British Empire.

Foremost of the contributions to Irish history may be ranked the last issue of **Domestic State Papers**, 1689, by W. T. Hardy. The most important deal with the relief of Londonderry; others are letters from Sir Patrick Hume to King William relative to the proceedings of the Scottish Parliament against Claverhouse. In connection therewith should be noted **The Jacobite Attempt of 1719** (Scot. Hist. So.), edited by W. Kirk Dickson, a valuable addition to the strange pathetic history of Jacobitism; it relates to the negotiations between the Duke of Ormond and the Spanish Cardinal Alberoni. The volume is based on the letter-book of the second Duke of Ormond, one of the recent valuable acquisitions of the British Museum. Another acquisition of still greater importance is the manuscript of the third and fourth volumes of the **Paston Letters**, documents of great historic value, inasmuch as they were written "by various persons of rank and consequence during the reigns of Henry VI., Edward IV., and Richard III.," originally edited by Mr. Fenn, of East Dereham, Norfolk, and called by Horace Walpole "a smatterer in antiquity, but a very good sort of man." Of these letters, written to and from the Paston family (Sir Roper Paston, Earl of Yarmouth, his son William, etc.), Fenn writes: "The letters of Henry VI.'s reign are come out, and to me make all other letters not worth reading. I have gone through one already and cannot bear to be writing when I am so eager to be reading." Recently Messrs. Constable & Co. have reissued the edition of the letters, arranged with an exhaustive introduction by Mr. T. Gairdner.

The portion of modern Irish history upon which Thomas Macknight, editor of *The Northern Whig*, is able to throw the light of personal knowledge concerns **Ulster as it is** (Macmillan). He describes the growth of Belfast, the development of constitutional Liberalism under Mr. Gladstone's premiership. Mr. John O'Leary's **Recollections of Fenians and Fenianism** (Downey) discusses ably a movement which still is an important factor in Irish politics.

“To trace the steps by which the American people and its peculiar type of Federal States have developed out of such heterogeneous and unpromising materials for nation-building as were to be found in the English American colonies in 1760” is the object of Professor Channing of Harvard’s concisely written **The United States**, published by the Cambridge University Press. He writes of the results of the War of Independence as befits an American, but at the same time admits that “the position in which the British Government found itself at the close of the war was a most difficult one.” Mr. Philip Alexander, the corresponding secretary to the Virginian Historical Society, issues through Messrs. Macmillan **The Economic History of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century**, which describes an interesting phase in the expansion of the English race by dwelling exclusively on the agricultural development, systems of labour, the domestic economy of the planter, etc., in the colony. The volume also contains a bibliography of authorities.

A few good books on Oriental history remain to be noted :—

Volume i. of J. D. Gribble’s **A History of the Deccan** (Luzac)—founded on “Ferishta,” Elliot’s “Persian Historians”—after a short introduction, begins with the Mahomedan invasions of the Deccan, the establishment of separate kingdoms, eventually submerged by the advance of the Mogul Empire, and closes with the ruin which overtook the great empire itself. A popular account of **The Mogul Emperors of Hindustan**, A.D. 1398-1707 (Constable), has been compiled from familiar authorities by Edward S. Holden, the astronomer of Lick Observatory.

Two authoritative books concerning points in matter-of-fact Eastern history are **The Mameluke or Slave Dynasty of Egypt**, 1260-1517 A.D., by the distinguished Orientalist Sir William Muir, Principal of Edinburgh University (Smith, Elder); and **Memphis and Mycenæ** (Cambridge), wherein Mr. Cecil Torr discusses current theories as to the date of the “Mycenæan” age in Greece, and the evidence thereto supplied by Egyptian inscriptions.

The tendency of the day to specialised studies of men and events has resulted in an increasingly large number of autobiographies, volumes of correspondence, or of

BIOGRAPHY.

The book in this category which created the most discussion is Mr. E. S. Purcell’s **Life of Cardinal Manning, Archbishop of Westminster** (Macmillan). The first volume treats of Manning as an Anglican, during the first part of his career that begins with his exchange of a desk in the Colonial Office for that of a country English parson, and carries him through the turbulent days of the Tractarian movement, of which he was “an external witness.” It is an interesting psychological study founded on Manning’s journals and notes. The second volume shows Manning as a Catholic, and relates his conversion, and subsequent elevation to the primacy of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in England, his influence at the Vatican, and, later, the important part he played in the great political and social events of the day. Despite certain objec-

tions that have been raised concerning the treatment of the second volume, the biography remains one of vivid, fascinating interest.

The Life and Correspondence of William Connor Magee, Archbishop of York, the essentially statesman-ecclesiastic, one of the most earnest defenders of the cause of the Irish Church, equally ardent as a worker in the House of Lords, through which he piloted the Public Worship Regulation Bill, a man of great parts and unflinching sincerity, is written and edited by Canon T. Cotter Macdonnell, D.D. (Isbister). **The Life and Letters of Dr. Samuel Butler**, in as far as they illustrate the scholastic, religious, and social life of England, 1790-1840 (Murray), giving an account of the most successful teacher of his day, and told by his grandson, Samuel Butler, the author of "Erewhon," in a manner wholly free from the conventional tone of the ordinary biography.

According to Sir G. H. Richards, the biography of one admiral only has been published within recent memory. During this year, which has witnessed the re-awakening of national interest in the naval resources of the country, there have appeared the records of three admirals who have played important parts in the naval annals of this century. **Admiral of the Fleet Sir Geoffrey Phipps Hornby, G.C.B.**, whose biography is written by Mrs. Fred Egerton (Blackwood), was the reputed leader of naval thought to a higher degree than any officer since Nelson.

The Life and Letters of the Late Admiral Sir Bartholomew James Sullivan, K.C.B., edited by his son H. N. Sullivan, with an introduction by Sir G. H. Richards, K.C.B. (Murray), has a wider interest than that of being the record of a remarkable officer, for it is an important contribution to that little-understood piece of history, the operations in the Baltic during the Russian war, when Sullivan rendered invaluable services as surveying captain. His apprenticeship in this branch of naval tactics was served when, as a lieutenant, he accompanied Darwin in his five years' cruise in the *Beagle*. Sullivan's share in the brilliant but forgotten Parana Expedition is graphically related, and Lord Farrer prints some interesting reminiscences of the admiral's connection with the Board of Trade, on his appointment thereto as "professional officer," or nautical adviser.

The Autobiography and Journals of Admiral Lord Clarence Paget (Chapman & Hall) which also treat of the operations in the Baltic, but from the non-scientific standpoint, reveal the personality and career of a well-bred, genial man, a shrewd, capable naval officer, who also served as Secretary to the Admiralty, under Lord Palmerston, from 1859 to 1865. The book is edited by Sir Arthur Otway.

The lives of several scientific travellers and pioneers have appeared; one belonging to our own day, another concerning matters more than a century old. **The Journal of the Right Hon. Joseph Banks**, during Captain Cook's first voyage in the *Endeavour* in 1768-71, is edited by Sir Joseph D. Hooker (Macmillan), who well describes him as "the pioneer of those naturalist voyages of late years, of whom Darwin is the great example." The journal is full of keen valuable observation, amusing tales of adventure, and is furnished with valuable charts and

portraits. The other is the life of the great African explorer **Joseph Thomson**, by his brother, with contributions by friends (Sampson Low). The shaping influences and leading incidents of Thomson's life are set forth with clearness and a due sense of proportion: his youth, his college career, his three important and successful expeditions into the heart of Africa before his twenty-seventh year, his journey to Morocco, his literary labours, finally his exploration of Northern Zambesia on behalf of the British South African Company, when his health broke down, and he returned to England to die—the record of the brilliant, valuable life of a born leader of men.

The Life of Sir John Franklin, R.N. (Murray), by H. D. Traill, was undertaken because to the many records of the career of the explorer was needed the addition of a personal memoir of the man. "What he *was* has never been known to any but his intimates. But that knowledge ought not to be confined to them. The character of such men as Franklin is, in truth, as much a national possession as their fame and work. Its influence may be as potent, its example as inspiring."

Mr William Archer has translated into English the life of **Fridtjof Nansen**, 1861-93, by W. C. Brögger and Nordahl Rolfsen, who trace the subject's descent from an explorer Hans Nansen born in 1598. The narrative gives an account of Nansen's youth, his voyages to the sailing of the *Fram*, with an account of his theories concerning the route to the North Pole.

Shortly after the death of Lady Burton appeared **The True Life of Captain Sir Richard Burton**, etc., written by his niece, G. M. Stested, with the authority and approval of the Burton family (Nichols), containing two special points upon which the truth is stated to be told for the first time: the marriage and death of Sir R. Burton.

Among the lives of the many notable Englishmen who have helped to make or maintain our Indian Empire may be quoted that of **Brian Houghton Hodgson**, British resident at the Court of Nepal, by Sir William Hunter (Murray), who describes his subject as a brilliant scholar, a masterly diplomatist, a munificent Englishman who enriched the museums with his collections, enlarged the boundaries of more than one science, and opened up a new field of original research. In some respects he was in advance of the science of the day; he was the first to attempt a demarcation of the zones of life, resulting from differences of elevation, in the Himalayas. **The Memoirs of the Gemini Generals**, by Major-General Osborn Wilkinson, C.B., and Major-General Johnson Wilkinson (Innes), deserves notice; also **Sir John Drummond Hay, P.C., K.C.B.**, one of the ablest and most strenuous men in the diplomatic service, edited by his two daughters (Murray), with a preface by Sir Francis de Winton, K.C.M.G.

The Early Reminiscences of General Sir Daniel Lysons is full of quaint gossip of days before the railways (Murray). To the "Men of Action Series" has been added J. W. Fortescue's **Dundonald** (Macmillan), whose life of struggle, conflict and unmerited obloquy is vigorously and vividly narrated. A new series has appeared, "The Foreign Statesmen," edited by Professor Bury (Macmillan). To it Professor Lodge, of Glasgow, has contributed **Richelieu**, whom he calls

“the greatest political genius France has ever produced”; and Mr. W. H. Hutton, a monograph on **Philip Augustus**. Mr. Keating in his **Comenius** (Black) endeavours to do tardy justice to the great educational thinker and reformer. Messrs. Macmillan have issued in two volumes the **Life, Letters and Works of Louis Agassiz**, by Jules Marcou, who for some years acted in some measure as secretary to the eminent naturalist at Harvard, is himself a man of some scientific attainments, who knows the scientific worlds of Europe and America, and has been acquainted, moreover, with many of Agassiz's European friends. Interesting, too, is **The Life and Letters of George John Romanes**, written and edited by his wife (Longmans). It gives a very full description of the life and friendships of this great scientist. His acquaintance with Darwin began shortly after Romanes left Cambridge. Among the letters are many of interest, written by Gladstone, Huxley, Herbert Spencer, Professor Weismann, Canon Gore, Dean Paget, etc., etc.

Foremost among the literary biographies and appreciations of the year stands a vindication of **Sheridan** (Bentley). Lord Dufferin in the introduction thereto writes: “What could be done for Sheridan has been done by Mr. Fraser Rae.” It is a genuine addition to literature; it depicts the real Sheridan, and is excellently illustrated.

Mr. Clement Shorter has given us an intimate and entertaining account of **Charlotte Brontë and her Circle** (Hodder & Stoughton) founded on a collection of letters from the author of “Jane Eyre” to her friend Miss Ellen Nussey, and on other sources, which throw fresh light on various points of the novelist's career, and those of her brother and her sister Emily.

The Life and Letters of John Gibson Lockhart (Nimmo), by Andrew Lang, is founded on MSS. from Abbotsford and Milton Lockhart, together with letters from Mr. Jonathan Christie, Lockhart's friend, letters to and from Carlyle, Milman and others, revealing a strong and complex character which hitherto has been seriously misrepresented from lack of complete information.

The reprint in two volumes of Mr. Percy Fitzgerald's **Life of Laurence Sterne** (Downey) may practically be considered a new life, for it contains a considerable amount of fresh material, accessible since 1864, and a number of recently discovered, unpublished letters of Sterne.

Professor Knight's **Memoir of John Nichol**, Professor of English Literature in the University of Glasgow (Maclehose), is valuable not only for its interesting subject, but also for the many letters written to him by Jowett, the Master of Balliol.

My Confidences, by Frederick Locker-Lampson (Smith, Elder & Co.), “an autobiographical sketch addressed to my descendants,” contains many capable stories and shrewdly outlined character sketches, also reminiscences of most of the authors and other well-known men of his day; and is, moreover, the revelation of a cheery, affable, egotistical personality.

The justification of Ida M. Tarbell's **Madame Roland** (Lawrence & Bullen) is that this study is based on hitherto unpublished material obtained from the descendants of Mme. Roland now living in Paris,

and from material in the Bibliothèque Nationale overlooked by previous biographers. The chapter on the heroine's marriage is written from unpublished letters, and from a new point of view.

The Girlhood of Maria Josepha Holroyd (Lady Stanley of Alderley) (Longmans), as told in letters of a hundred years ago, from 1776 to 1769, is the story of the daughter of Gibbon's friend, Lord Sheffield. Among other subjects of interest the volume contains accounts of the trial of Warren Hastings, the Apotheosis of Voltaire, and incidents of the French Revolution described by an eye-witness, and descriptions of Comte de Lally Tollendal and other important refugees.

Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. have published the English edition of life and letters of **Oliver Wendell Holmes**, by his nephew J. T. Morse, the author of the recent admirable "Life of Lincoln." Mr. Holmes devoted himself early to medicine, studied in Paris and became Professor of Anatomy at Harvard. "The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table" appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly*, and rendered himself and the magazine famous. He was a master craftsman in prose and verse; a man of great versatility, untiring in the acquirement of knowledge. **The Life of the Late Sir Samuel Ferguson**, poet, archivist, author of the popular "Forging of the Anchor," is written in two volumes by his wife, Lady Ferguson (Blackwood); and Mr. Augustus J. C. Hare publishes **The Story of My Life** through Mr. Allen.

The biographies of the following artists and musicians have appeared this year: a record of the life and work of **Ford Madox Brown**, beautifully bound, printed and illustrated (Longmans), written by his grandson Ford M. Hueffer. A lucid account is given of his career, the many difficulties that beset it, the formation of the pre-Raphaelite brotherhood, and a description of his fine decorative work. The autobiography of **Philip Gilbert Hamerton**, the great authority on etching, is edited, with a memoir, by his wife (Seeley). **The Life and Letters of Frederick Walker, A.R.A.**, is written and edited by J. G. Marks (Macmillan). Relating to musicians may be noted **The Life of the Rev. Sir F. A. Gore Ouseley, Bart., Mus. D.**, who lived and worked in the atmosphere of the finest English music (Methuen); **Musical Reminiscences**, by W. Kuhe (Bentley); the first volume of **Life and Letters of Sir Charles Hallé** (Smith, Elder & Co.), partly autobiographic, edited by his son and daughter.

There remain still to be noticed **The Most Gorgeous Lady Blessington** (Downey), by Fitzgerald Molloy, which contains much interesting new material dealing with Lady Blessington and her circle, drawn from Mr. Alfred Morrison's valuable collection of autograph letters. **The Jerningham Letters**, edited with notes by Egerton Castle (Bentley), illustrate the career of an interesting family, from 1780-1843, and throw welcome side-lights on the progress of public affairs, and on the social status of those years. **The History of the Frazers**, by A. Mackenzie (Mackenzie, Inverness), contains the life of Simon, Lord Frazer of Lovat, who was beheaded in 1747; **The Memoirs of Sir Claude de Crespigny**, edited by G. A. B. Dewar (Lawrence & Bullen); **Records and Reminiscences of Goodwood and the Dukes of Richmond**, by John Kent (Sampson Low).

THEOLOGY.

Early in the year appeared Mr. Gladstone's sumptuous edition in two volumes of **The Works of Joseph Butler, D.C.L.**, sometime Lord Bishop of Durham (Clarendon Press), "divided into sections, with sectional headings, an index to each volume, and some occasional notes, also prefatory matter." Mr. Gladstone explains the reasons for this edition, that "for want of an available power of reference of works so close in tissue and so profoundly charged with vital matter, the difficulty of mastering Butler has been seriously aggravated." Some months later the Clarendon Press published Mr. Gladstone's remarkable **Studies Subsidiary to the Works of Bishop Butler**. The volume falls into two parts. The first is concerned with the method as contrasted with the arguments of the "Analogy" and the "Sermons," their history and influence, with Mr. Gladstone's replies to the criticisms to which they have been exposed. The second portion is devoted to the question of a future life, and to a summary of the chief theses that have been entertained thereon; the discussion being based upon the teachings of Butler.

The Philosophy of Belief, or Law in Christian Theology, by the Duke of Argyll (Murray), is an attempt to carry on and conclude the arguments he expounded in "The Reign of Law," and in "The Unity of Nature," and to solve some of the oldest and deepest problems of philosophy. The main portion of the book is devoted to an exposition of the chief aspects of Hebrew and Christian theology; while in the preface the author describes his own education and growth in his mind of the ideas detailed in his work.

The late Dean Burgon left forty portfolios of MS., upon which he had been engaged for thirty years; but he died before the projected work could be put into definite form. His old friend the Rev. Edward Miller, M.A., has from this immense mass of fragments "arranged, completed and edited" an elaborate treatise entitled **The Traditional Text of the Holy Gospels Vindicated and Established** (Bell), by "making up what was ready and fit into a book, supplying from the rest of the material and from elsewhere what was wanting, and out of the rest to construct brief notes on the text which we had to publish."

The Gifford Lectures for 1894-5 are from the pen of Alexander Campbell Fraser upon the **Philosophy of Religion** (Blackwood), and are distinguished from their predecessors, inasmuch as Dr. Fraser treats his important theme as the rational critic rather than as the historical inquirer.

The Bampton Lectures for 1895 were delivered by Rev. Thos. B. Strong, examining chaplain to the Bishop of Durham. They are issued in book form (Longmans), and in the preface to **Christian Ethics** the author defines his position and affirms that "the Christian theory of modern life is not merely a new formulation of the old experience, nor merely a restatement of the old truths with certain new virtues added; but a view of life based upon a radically different experience of facts." Whereupon the lecturer proceeds to consider the teachings of Plato

and Aristotle, the Old Testament, and finally the New Testament. The Rev. Leighton Pullan, M.A., in his **Lectures on Religion** (Longmans) endeavours to give in a literary form a very short, but scientific, defence of orthodox Christianity. He also draws a comparison between Christian ethics and those of Greece, Rome and India.

Liturgies Eastern and Western (Clarendon Press)—an enlarged and elaborated second edition of Canon Hammond's book of the same name—is described by the author, the Rev. F. E. Brightman, as a *monumentum quantulumcunque* of his desire for reunion. The first volume only has appeared and deals with Eastern liturgies, including the Egyptian, Persian and Byzantine rites. Dr. George Park Fisher, Professor of Ecclesiastical History in Yale University, has contributed a learned **History of Christian Doctrine** (Clark) to the International Theological Library, intended for the use of students. Lieut.-Colonel Conder, R.E., in his **Bible and the East** (Blackwood) surveys the chief sections of the Bible in chronological order, and endeavours to construct a history of the book. His opinions vary considerably from recognised standards, they are expressed in a quiet attractive style, and contain valuable and suggestive matter for consideration. **Ecclesiastical** (Macmillan) is "one of a series of works from the Sacred Scriptures presented in modern literary form," by Dr. R. G. Moulton, which will be known as "the modern reader's Bible," edited on the principles laid down in the author's "Literary Study of the Bible." **The Incarnation** (Methuen), in two volumes, from the pen of R. L. Ottley, Principal of Pusey House, Oxford, is intended to meet a want of "a compendious and plain introduction to the doctrine of Incarnation, giving a connected outline of the theology and doctrinal history, which may be studied separately and more minutely in larger books."

The interest of German theologians is at present centred on New Testament criticism, and discussion is at its height concerning the origin and primitive form, the relations and development of the Gospels. This movement is finding an echo and response in English thought; and Dr. J. Foulton Blair's **The Apostolic Gospel** (Smith, Elder) is an attempt to bring this criticism to some broad and general result. His aim is to find a "primitive" gospel. He rejects the two recognised primitive sources—the Gospel of St. Mark and the "Logia" document; he believes all material underlying the Gospels can be traced to one primitive apostolic source, and endeavours to make a critical reconstruction of this primitive document, as it may have been seen by the different writers of the Gospels.

Mrs. Agnes Smith Lewis has concluded her labours which have three times taken her to the Convent of St. Katherine on Mount Sinai, where she has studied and translated the Syrian Codex of the Gospels discovered by her in 1892. "The cautious use of the re-agent" has enabled her to decipher passages hitherto obscure. Her volume, **Some Pages of the Four Gospels Re-transcribed from the Sinaitic Palimpsest**, is published by Messrs. Clay & Sons.

From the Roman Catholic side comes **The Monastic Life**, from the Fathers of the Desert to Charlemagne, by the learned Thomas W. Allies, K.C.S.G. (Kegan Paul). Of still greater importance is the **History of**

Auricular Confession and Indulgences in the Latin Church, by Henry Charles Lea, LL.D. (Sonnenschein), based on original sources and Catholic authorities. Pertaining to Eastern thought and belief are: **Buddhism**, its history and religion, by T. W. Rhys Davids, LL.D., Ph.D. (Putnams), being the first of a series of "American lectures on the history of religions." A volume of interesting **Studies in Judaism** (Black), by S. Schechter, reader in Talmudic in the University of Cambridge.

Of several books bearing on religious and theological matters mention must not be omitted. From the liberal and philosophic side comes Mr. Bailey Saunders' translation of Dr. Adolf Harnack's **Christianity and History**, a lecture delivered before the Evangelical Union of Berlin, founded to "protect the interests of Protestantism against the increasing power of the Roman Church." **St. Paul the Traveller and Roman Citizen** (Hodder & Stoughton), by W. M. Ramsay, D.C.L., LL.D., is a commentary on the Acts of the Apostles, the development of Christianity and the extension of the Christian religion in the Roman Empire. **The Roman See in the Early Church**, and other studies in Church history, by William Bright, D.D., Regius Professor of Ecclesiastical History, Oxford (Longmans); a characteristic and representative selection of **Sermons and Addresses** by the late Henry R. Heywood (Longmans), and **The Gospel of Experience: or the Witness of Human Life to the Truth of Revelation**, being the Boyle Lectures for 1895 (Longmans), by the Rev. W. C. E. Newbolt, Canon and Chancellor of St. Paul's, should be mentioned.

SCIENCE.

For more than twenty years Mr. Herbert Spencer has devoted himself to his great work, "The System of Synthetic Philosophy," which he has brought to a conclusion by the publication of the third volume of **The Principles of Sociology** (Williams & Norgate). It divides itself into three sections, on Ecclesiastical Institutions, Professional Institutions, and Industrial Institutions. Mr. Spencer believes that the best method of regulating industry is that which evolves itself naturally where governmental interference is got rid of; he predicts the triumph of Socialism in the immediate future. The writer explains how all professions should be regarded as evolved from the ecclesiastical profession inasmuch as the priesthoods are the earliest leisured classes; how effective progress began historically, not in the Eastern civilisations, but in societies of a different type in contact with yet separate from them.

Mr. F. B. Jevons, M.A., has written a valuable **Introduction to the History of Religion** (Methuen) in which he reverses Mr. Spencer's theory that ancestor worship is the origin of religion. He follows Mr. Tylor's theory of dreams as the source of the savage's conception of his own spirit. He discusses taboo at length, and describes totemism as the first effort made by man to establish friendly society with supernatural forces; and there are excellent chapters on "Monotheism" and "The Evolution of Belief." Mr. W. E. H. Lecky's **Democracy and**

Liberty (Longmans) is a very valuable contribution to social science. In two volumes he attempts to analyse democracy, to forecast its results, as many other scientists, De Tocqueville, Laveleye and others, have endeavoured to do. He, unlike many of his predecessors in the same field of study, is fully conscious of the magnitude of his theme, whereby his conclusions and forecast gain in value. He draws his illustrations from all forms of democracy, and examines the problem from many sides, and at great length.

Mr. Leslie Stephen's contribution to the same science is in the form of two volumes of **Ethical Addresses** (Sonnenschein) originally delivered to various ethical societies. Mr. Stephen believes in steady, if slow, progress; that if Bentham could come to life again he would see "a clearer recognition of the great ends of conduct, and a general advance in the direction he desired." He believes that this advance may be promoted by "a full and free discussion of first principles; that the great social evils which still exist can be diminished, and the creed of the future . . . may be purified as much as possible from ancient prejudice and superstition." Mr. Thomas Mackay is a strenuous opponent of collectivism in every form, and expounds his arguments with vigour in his **Methods of Social Reform** (Murray). Mr. Mackay is most widely known as the editor of "The Plea for Liberty" which was published some years ago under the auspices of Herbert Spencer. Mr. Geoffrey Drage has given much labour and practical thought to the compilation of a volume upon **The Labour Problem**, and states his conclusion for the gradual relaxation of its urgency by methods of self-help, sympathetic administration, etc. Messrs. Longmans have brought out a number of valuable books on social science. Mr. B. H. Baden Powell's **The Indian Village Community**, examined with reference to the physical, ethnographical, and historical conditions of the provinces, gives a somewhat detailed account of the groups of cultivated holdings which represent the first and original form of permanent agricultural settlements growing up under early conditions of *tribal* life. **German Social Democracy**, by Bertrand Russell, B.A., with an appendix on Social Democracy and the Woman Question in Germany, by Alys Russell, B.A., endeavours to emphasise the aspects of events and speculations which have produced the present political situation; and Richard Jennery-Shee has translated from the Italian of Count Eduard Soderini the complex question of **Socialism and Catholicism**.

The aim of G. F. Stout's **Analytic Psychology** (Sonnenschein) is to bring sympathetic order into the crowd of facts concerning our mental life, revealed by "analysis of ordinary experience," a wide field, distinct, however, "from the attempt to trace the evolution of mind from its lowest stages."

The first part of **Symbolic Logic**, by Lewis Carroll (Macmillan), is an interesting, useful little work, supplied with an effective diagrammatic method for solving logical problems.

That "history, unless it possess the complement of political science, is dead," that "political science, without history, has no root," are the maxims upon which Sir John Seeley, K.C.M.G., developed his two lectures, the **Introduction to Political Science** (Macmillan), which

Professor Sidgwick has furnished with an introduction. The author defines the true subject of political science to be the State, its origin, growth, decay, and its object, not "what the State should aim at, but what it does aim at."

In **Mars** (Longmans) Mr. Percival Lowell, an American astronomer, attempts to solve the problem of canals in the planet Mars, and the volume "is the result of a special study of the planet made during the last opposition at an observatory put up for the purpose of getting as good air as practicable at Flagstaff, Arizona." Mr. Lowell's hypothesis, too lengthy to give in these pages, is of extreme interest.

POETRY.

The strongest volume of poetry of the year is undoubtedly Mr. Rudyard Kipling's **The Seven Seas** (Methuen); for, while some singers take up the burden of one or other great cause, as, for instance, Mr. Watson the sorrows of Armenia, and others tune their lyre in accord with nature, Mr. Kipling is the bard of the British Empire whose verse is the breath of passionate patriotism, and embodies the fine elements of British character—its energy, endurance and death-scorning pluck, sung with marvellous power and melody, and full of insight, humour, and pathos.

Twice in the course of the year Mr. William Watson has made stirring appeals to England on behalf of Armenia. **The Purple East** (Lane) is a series of sonnets on what the poet terms England's desertion of Armenia, written with fine eloquence. At Christmastide the poet made a further appeal to the nation in his **The Year of Shame** (Lane), wherein he is again the muse of Armenia and her massacred people. The Bishop of Hereford has written the preface, and he claims that the book is "not only a poet's impassioned utterance, but still more a patriotic appeal"; and he adds "our statesmen have lost their nerve and resource," lamenting that "the military empires have strangled the conscience of Europe." Among the most important poems are: "How weary are our hearts," "Europe at play," "To the Sultan," etc. Sir Lewis Morris has also sung of Armenia and her tragic sorrows in his **Idylls and Lyrics** (Osgood, M'Ilvaine). The Armenian section was written at the request of the Armenian Relief Committee. The volume is pervaded by a wide human sympathy, a pointedly ethical tendency expressed in graceful melodious verse.

In **The Tale of Balen**, by Charles Algernon Swinburne (Chatto), the old wild Arthurian tale is sung in melodious tones, that reach at times to a fine burst of full-voiced harmony.

England's Darling is the title of the new Poet-Laureate's first publication since his election (Macmillan); a play in four acts on the subject of King Alfred at the crisis of his fate before and after the battle of Ethandune; a fine subject for a patriotic poet.

Mr. Stephen Philips is perhaps the foremost of the young poets of the year. His **Christ in Hades** (Elkin Mathews) contains fine imaginative fragments, some exquisite little lyrics, and promise of good work to come.

Several posthumous volumes of poems have appeared. One is of **Poems** by Christina Rossetti, collected from a series of note books, and from a few magazines and reviews, and edited by her brother, William Rossetti (Macmillan). Her brother explains the reason why the poetess had not herself published the volume to be that "Christina did decidedly discern herself to be a poetess, in the right sense of the word, but her self-estimate was always a modest one, and she had not the least inclination to thrust herself, her emotions or her verses upon the attention of any person."

A second volume is more properly speaking a selection of poems of **John Stuart Blackie** (Macqueen) made at the wish of the late professor by his nephew, A. S. Walker, who has prefaced the volume with an "appreciation" of the Scottish poet.

Another posthumous volume of **Poems** (Macmillan) is by Mrs. Alexander, the author of "There is a green hill far away," "Once in Royal David's City," etc. The volume includes all her beautiful hymns, narrative and imaginative verse, and other pieces written on special occasions, either for her children or in memory of departed friends.

Mr. John Davidson issues through Mr. Lane a volume of **New Ballads**, written in a pessimistic vein; Mr. Robert Buchanan's **The Devil's Case**, published by himself, is presented in a fiery, forcible manner; **The Man from the Snowy River** (Macmillan), by A. B. Paterson, is considered by Rolf Boldrewood to be the best bush ballads written since Lindsay Gordon; **From the Hills of Dream: Mountain Songs and Island Runes**, by Fiona Macleod (Geddes, Edinburgh), shows keen poetic insight, and is permeated with the mystery and melancholy of the Celtic imagination; **Under the Quicken Boughs** (Lane), by Nora Hopper, has the charm of sensitive melody; **A Shropshire Lad** (Kegan Paul), by A. E. Houseman, is a delightfully fresh lyric sequence; **The Flower Seller and other Poems** is graceful verse from the pen of Lady Lindsay (Longmans); **In Praise of Life**, by Laurence Binyon, forms one of Mr. Elkin Mathews' "The Publisher's Shilling Garland"; Messrs. Longmans publish also a **Selection from the Poems of George John Romanes**, with an introduction by T. Hubert Warren, President of Magdalen College, Oxford.

New editions of the classical British poets are numerous; among them may specially be noted the centenary edition of **Burns**, edited by W. E. Henley and T. F. Henderson (Jack, Edinburgh); the fine edition of **Byron** by Mr. Henley (Heinemann); and the sumptuous **Chaucer**, edited by F. S. Ellis, designed and illustrated by Sir Edward Burne Jones, printed by William Morris shortly before his death, in the Kelmscott Press. Dr. Richard Garnett has with remarkable success translated in fine adequate verse a volume of **CXXIV. Sonnets from Dante, Petrarch, Camoens** (Lane); and Mr. John Davidson translated and turned into an effective acting drama, **For the Crown: a play** written by François Coppée.

BELLES LETTRES.

The last of the beautiful series of prose romances by William Morris appeared in November, **The Well at the World's End** (Longmans),

whose waters issue from the black rock whereon is graven the sword and bough, and the words: "Ye who have come a long way to look upon me, if ye deem that ye be strong enough in desire to bear length of days: or else drink not; but tell your friends and kindreds of the earth how ye have seen a great marvel." Mr. Charles Shadwell has prepared for the press (Macmillan) the last remaining fragment of Walter Pater's works, **Gaston de Latour: an Unfinished Romance**. A part of it only was published by the author, the remainder he intended to reconsider and revise. Mr. Pater designed the romance to be similar in method to "Marius the Epicurean," but it remains, in part, a fragment of great literary beauty.

Mrs. Alice Meynell is recognised as the chief essayist in England; her second volume, **The Colour of Life and other Essays on Things Seen and Heard** (Lane), sustains her reputation, as does also her charming book on **Children** (Lane), wherein she shows herself to be possessed of loving observation and insight, and to be a true artist in words. Mr. George Saintsbury's pen has not been idle since his election to the Edinburgh Chair of Literature; he has brought out his second series of **Essays in English Literature, 1780-1860** (Dent), and a volume on **Nineteenth Century Literature**, wherein he displays a wide range of reading, and that power of critical detachment which is a rare quality. The Leadenhall Press has issued in two sumptuous volumes, profusely illustrated, the **History of the Horn Book**, by Andrew Tuer, F.S.A. "By command dedicated to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress." Professor C. E. Vaughan in **English Literary Criticism** (Blackie) examines the development of sound principles of criticism with ability and insight, and the periods dealt with are the Elizabethan, that of the Restoration, the eighteenth century, and the first half of the nineteenth century. Mr. Austin Dobson's third series of **Eighteenth Century Vignettes** (Chatto)—as charmingly written as its predecessors—contains among other things a description of M. Grossley's "Londres"; of Puckle's "Club"; of Molly Lepel, afterwards Lady Hervey; of London as it was in the days of Hogarth.

Mr. Edmund Gosse's appreciations of writers of note with whom he has had personal acquaintance are told in a fascinating and chatty manner in his **Critical Kit-Kats** (Heinemann). If nothing very new is told concerning R. L. Stevenson, Lord de Tabley, Walt Whitman, Walter Pater, José Marie de Hérédia, at all events the delineations are lucid, graceful, charming.

Mr. William Sharp publishes through Mr. Elkin Mathews a number of critical and fantastic studies entitled **Ecoe Puella**; Mr. Richard Le Gallienne issues through Mr. Lane a second series of his charming **Prose Fancies**; and Mrs. Veitch has collected from *Blackwood's Magazine* a series of **Border Essays** by the late John Veitch, M.A. (Blackwood).

MISCELLANEOUS.

Women under Monasticism, by Lena Eckenstein (Cambridge University Press), covers a field of research of wide interest, treated in a scholarly conscientious manner, that starts with a survey of monas-

ticism prior to 1000, and passes under review the Monastic Revival of the Middle Ages, Industries in the Nunneries, Monastic Reform previous to the Reformation, the Dissolution, and finally, a summary of a memoir written by Charitas Perckheimer, Abbess in the Convent of Nürnberg during the Reformation.

The second series of **Studies in Ancient History**, by the late John M'Lennan (Macmillan), intended, together with his "Primitive Marriage," to prelude an exhaustive work on early society, has been published under melancholy circumstances. Unable to finish the preparation of the volume, it was undertaken successively by his brother Daniel M'Lennan, and then by Professor Robertson Smith, both of whom died before its completion. Mrs. M'Lennan continued the work, assisted by Mr. Arthur Platt; but she, too, died while the book was going through the press.

Messrs. Macmillan publish a selection of several of the best **Historical Essays** penned by Bishop Lightfoot. Among the contents are "England during the Latter Half of the Thirteenth Century," "Christian Life in the Second and Third Centuries," "The Comparative Progress of Ancient and Modern Missions," etc.

Canon M'Coll's aim in his **The Sultan and the Powers** (Longmans) is to urge that Britain should take some action in aid of the persecuted Armenians, or at all events to dissociate herself from the deadlock of European Concert. He contends that the Sultan will do nothing unless under compulsion; but also points out that the Sultan is not a free agent to grant the desired reforms; for his hands are tied by the sacred Moslem hierarchy—the Ulema. The Canon proceeds to affirm that the only hope lies in European coercion; he makes a strong and generous plea for some action to end the present deplorable condition of affairs.

Professor H. A. Strong has collected and edited a volume of **Reviews and Critical Essays**, by Dr. Carl Pearson (Methuen), accompanied with a short biographical notice and excellent portrait of Pearson, with whom Professor Strong was long intimate in Victoria, and where he was known not only as scholar and journalist, but as a practical statesman of high order.

Owing to Lord Brassey's duties in the Australian colonies, the editing of the invaluable **Naval Annual** is being carried on with ability by his son. The table of ships, hitherto prepared by Mr. Barnes, is now undertaken by Commander Robinson, though Mr. Barnes remains responsible for the plates of the ships.

Messrs. Chapman & Hall publish **Recollections of Paris**, by Captain the Hon. G. Bingham, who lived in the French capital during many years of the second empire, and who, during the Commune, was the correspondent to more than one English journal. In **The Downfall of Prempeh** (Methuen) Major R. S. S. Baden Powell gives a vigorously told narrative of the expedition to Kumassi. He does not pretend to offer a detailed history of the operations. "My sketch will be merely a rough diary of the campaign from my point of view," and presents a vivid picture of the serious difficulties that beset the expedition.

The interest in **The Last Years of St. Andrews**, by A. K. H. B.

(Longmans) is the pleasant character sketch it presents of Dr. Thorold, late Bishop of Winchester; and the number of characteristic letters by Froude it reprints. Mr. G. D. Leslie has produced a companion volume to his popular *Letters to Marco*. The title is **Riverside Letters** (Macmillan), and they are, as before, addressed to his old friend, Mr. Marks. They are written with delightful ease and spontaneity, are charming in diction, and show a close loving observation of nature, and of rural human nature too.

The aim of **A Text-book of the History of Architecture**, by A. D. F. Hamlin (Longmans), is to sketch the various periods and styles with the broadest strokes; to characterise briefly the important works of each period. Mr. Frederick Wedmore has written a careful and useful manual on **Etching in England** (Bell); and Mr. John C. Van Dyke has edited an excellent series of biographical and critical reviews of **Modern French Masters**, by American artists, profusely illustrated (Unwin). Mr. A. Graves has issued an enlarged and revised edition of his useful **Dictionary of Artists** who have exhibited works in the principal London exhibitions from 1760-1893.

The most important contributions to the literature of music are: Mr. R. Streatfield's **The Opera**, a sketch of its development, with full descriptions of every work in the modern repertory (Nimmo). As Mr. Fuller Maitland points out in his introduction, the author has combined the mere story-telling part of his task with a survey of the history of the opera from the seventeenth century to the present day. **The History of the Pianoforte**, by the competent authority A. J. Hopkins (Novello). It is comprehensive, accurate, and lucidly written.

Mr. Henry Arthur Jones has collected for his **Renaissance of the English Drama** (Macmillan) material mainly controversial, previously written by him in the form of essays, articles, prefaces, or lectures. The volume forms an important contribution to dramatic literature.

TRAVEL.

Several important books of travel and exploration have appeared. Mr. C. H. Robinson, of Trinity College, Cambridge, has written an interesting account of a noteworthy journey in **Hausaland, or Fifteen Hundred Miles through the Central Soudan** (Sampson Low). The author's brother, a missionary settled on the Niger, who had worked indefatigably at the Hausa language, died, and in his memory was formed a Hausa Association to promote intercourse "whether from a missionary, scientific or commercial standpoint." The association was formed of such men as Lord Aberdare, Francis Galton, Max Müller, Robertson Smith, archbishops and bishops; Mr. C. H. Robinson was asked to head the first expedition into the interior, and started in 1894 with Dr. Tonkin, Mr. Bonner and an Arab servant. The description of the journey is full of scientific and popular interest. Mr. Murray publishes **The Heart of a Continent: A Narrative of Travels in Manchuria**, across the Gobi Desert, through the Himalayas, the Pamirs, and Chitral, 1884-94, by Captain Frank E. Younghusband, C.I.E., who inherited his love of travel from his uncle Robert Shaw, the first

Englishman to cross the Himalayas into Eastern Turkestan. When in Kashmir as attaché to the Intelligence Department, Younghusband acquired books and maps of travel that had belonged to his uncle, and was inspired to set out upon his important exploration of Central Asia. The present volume is the record of five of the most important of his journeys. The first big journey was made in company with Mr. James to discover the Ever-White Mountain in the heart of a Manchurian forest; the second was from Peking to India, in concert with Colonel Bell. The travellers started by different routes which converge at Hami, but they missed each other and travelled separately. Young-husband's route had not previously been gone over by a European. He crossed the Great Wall at Kalgan, traversed the Great Mongolian Steppes and Gobi, crossed the shoulder of the Tean Shan range to Hami, and thence went south through Turfan and Kashgar.

Major-General W. C. F. Molyneux gives an entertaining account of personal experiences in his **Campaigning in South Africa and Egypt** (Macmillan) during the Kafir War of 1878, the Zulu War, and the campaign of Tel-el-Kebir. **The Great Rift Valley** is a valuable narrative of a journey to Mount Kenya and Lake Baringo, with some account of the geology, natural history, anthropology, and future prospects of British East Africa, by J. W. Gregory, D.Sc. (Murray). In **A Naturalist in Mid Africa** (Innes) Mr. Scott Elliot describes the country, flora and fauna of Ruwenzori, and the road thence to Lake Tanganyika. Mr. D. G. Hogarth, one of the most distinguished of the younger explorers, relates his journeys from Smyrna across the mountains of the Hinterland to Konia, to the coast at Akhman, to the Euphrates, Trebizond, and again to Samsein on the Black Sea, in a small volume entitled **A Wandering Scholar in the Levant** (Murray).

The distinguished Arctic explorer General A. W. Greely has written a complete and concise **Handbook of Arctic Discoveries** (Sampson Low), from the earliest times to the starting of Dr. Nansen in the *Fram* three years ago; together with excellent maps and bibliography. Mr. John Bradshaw in his **Norway** offers an excellent account for tourists of the highways and byways of Norway, with introductory chapters on the life and manners of the people.

Mr. Walter B. Harris has written a most interesting account—dedicated to the Prince of Wales—of his travels **From Batum to Baghdad via Tiflis, Tabriz, and Persian Kurdistan** (Blackwood), in which he avoids all political controversy on the vexed question of the Armenians. Nevertheless there are many important incidental references to the Armenian people and villages, particularly an intimate description of the head church of the Gregorian Armenians at Elchimadzin. Mr. Harris adds his testimony to those of his many predecessors as to the ill-feeling existing between Persia and Turkey.

Miss H. Ellen Browning writes an amusing readable account of her adventures in **A Girl's Wanderings in Hungary** (Longmans).

Mr. Fitzgerald's **Climbs in the New Zealand Alps**; being an account of travel and discovery (Unwin), is a record of personal adventure, in company with M. Zurbriggen, the renowned mountaineer, rather than

the epitome of a region ; it is furnished with an excellent large map of the New Zealand glaciers.

Mountaineering and Exploration in the Japanese Alps, by the Rev. Walter Meston (Murray), has an interest beyond mere narrative of a climber's exploits. It contains some valuable details concerning Japanese pilgrimages, of service to students of primitive forms of worship.

SPORT.

Mr. John Guille Millais has inherited from his father the art of rapid accurate draughtsmanship ; moreover, he is a naturalist and sportsman. **A Breath from the Veldt** (Sotheran) is a magnificent volume in which letterpress and illustrations vie with each other in artistic excellence, and the getup of the book is worthy of the contents. Mr. Millais has studied and explains the habits of the animals he came across ; he describes and draws them with remarkable vivacity. Moreover, Mr. Millais has succeeded in figuring several species, especially the white-tailed gnu that is nearly extinct. The frontispiece was contributed by Sir John Millais.

"The Badminton Library" (Longmans) has been brought to a close by Major W. Broadfoot's volume on **Billiards**, with contributions from A. H. Boyd, Sydenham Dixon, W. J. Ford, and other authorities ; illustrated by Lucien Davis, R.I. The series, however, is supplemented by **The Poetry of Sport**, a selection by Hedley Peek, with a chapter on classical allusions to sport by Andrew Lang, and a special preface to the Badminton Library by A. E. T. Watson.

To "The Fur and Feather Series" (Longmans) has been added **The Hare** ; "The Natural History" is by the Rev. H. A. Macpherson ; "Shooting" by the Hon. Gerald Lascelles ; "Hunting" by J. S. Gibbons and G. H. Longman ; "Coursing" by Charles Richards, illustrated by A. Thorburn, G. D. Giles, C. Whymper. **The Red Deer** written as regards the natural history by the Rev. H. A. Macpherson ; "Deer Stalking" by Cameron, of Lochiel ; "Stag Hunting" by Viscount Ebrington ; "Cookery" by A. Innes Shand, and illustrated by J. Charlton and A. Thorburn.

The especial interest of Mr. Baillie-Grohman's beautifully illustrated and exhaustive volume on **Sport in the Alps in the Past and Present** (Black) is his account of the hunting of deer and chamois in the great preserves of Bavaria open to few Englishmen.

TOPOGRAPHY.

A History of Fife and Kinross is the first volume of a series of Scottish counties' histories (Blackwood). It is written by the historian Dr. Æneas J. G. Mackay, sheriff of the two counties, in the spirit of erudite enthusiasm now rarely found in local historians. Sir Herbert Maxwell's **Dumfries and Galloway**, in the same series, follows close on Dr. Mackay's volume. Dr. J. T. Gilbert has published, through Messrs. Hodges, Figgis, a portion of his history of the city of Dublin, under the title of **An Account of the Parliament House, Dublin**, with notices of Parliaments held there between 1661-1800.

The third volume of **The History of Northumberland** (Reid, Newcastle), by Allen B. Hinds, is devoted to the part played by the borough of Hexham in the thrilling history of the border country. In **Under a Border Tower** the Rev. H. M. Neville gives an account of Ford Castle, Northumberland, long the residence of Louisa, Marchioness of Waterford. Mr. C. W. Heckethorn has gathered much miscellaneous matter of interest concerning famous building in, and famous people whose names are associated with, **Lincoln's Inn Fields and the Localities Adjacent** (Stock).

In the **History of the Somerset Carthusians** (John Hodges) Miss E. M. Thompson traces the rise and fall of Witham and Hinton Charterhouses—the former founded, by Henry by order of Pope Alexander, as a penance for Becket's murder, and the latter by William Longerpée, Earl of Salisbury, in memory of his mother, Fair Rosamond. The information brought together cannot fail to be of immense use to antiquarians and county historians, Miss Thompson having obtained access to documents hitherto little, if at all, known. Mr. Warwick Wroth's **London Pleasure Gardens in the Eighteenth Century** (Macmillan) is a work of more general interest, full of quaint information about the ways and places in which Londoners of the last century amused themselves, and throwing much valuable light upon social Cockneydom and its entertainers. The love of Londoners for outdoor amusements was, to judge by the number of gardens and openair resorts, much greater then than now, but, of course, athletic amusements were less widely cultivated.

SCIENCE OF THE YEAR.

THE year 1896 will be memorable for the success which has attended one of the most daring arctic expeditions ever planned. After an absence of more than three years Dr. Nansen and his companions have returned without the loss of a single life, having penetrated farther north than any former explorer. No other scientific achievement of the year can compare with this in general interest. With the exception of a method of colour photography, which was made public towards the end of the year, most of the scientific work has been a development of previously reported discoveries, such as that of the Röntgen rays mentioned in last year's summary. Engineering has received an impulse in this country by legislation permitting the use of motor cars and encouraging the formation of light railways. The Blackwall tunnel, to which reference has been previously made, was successfully completed so far as the actual tunnelling under the Thames was concerned, and carriages propelled by mechanical means were by an act of Parliament relieved from many of the vexatious restrictions which have hindered their employment in this country. Professor S. P. Langley has carried the question of artificial flight a step further towards actual practice by building a flying machine, weighing without fuel or water some eleven kilogrammes, which propelled by a one-horse power motor achieved a series of flights, rising some ninety feet into the air and descending without harm after a flight of over half a mile. Further distance was rendered difficult by the absence of any condenser to the motor. The increasing use of acetylene has resulted in serious accidents owing to the highly explosive character of the gas when mixed with air. The industrial uses of electricity show yearly development. The use of the electric furnace now extends not only to the preparation of aluminium, of calcium carbide, of sodium peroxide, and many other comparatively new additions to the industrial arts, but the demand for alkaline cyanides for the extraction of gold from its ores has led to the utilisation of various bye-products, with the help of the electric furnace, for the supply of this demand. It is to be hoped that the munificent gift by Dr. Ludwig Mond of a laboratory for research work in connection with the Royal Institution will do something to connect the discoveries of pure science with their practical applications in the arts and manufactures. Two remarkable engineering undertakings have been completed which have some geographical importance. Thus the land-locked basin of Mexico city has been relieved from the frequent flooding due to the overflow of its five lakes, by the completion of a drainage canal, forty-three miles in length, which takes the surplus

waters across the watershed. But in the Presidency of Madras a far greater change than this has been effected. The Western Ghats are a range of mountains running up to heights of 8,000 feet, and separating a rainy well-watered district on the west from a dry famine-haunted district on the east. By the completion of the Periyar irrigation scheme the waters of this river have been diverted from the rainy western side to the dry eastern side where the presence of a large river is a matter of vital importance. This great work, which has been some years under construction, has now been successfully carried out under the engineer in charge, Captain Pennycuik, and one of the greatest alterations of physical geography ever undertaken by man has been finally completed. How little man is able to do against the forces of nature was shown by the appalling calamities in Japan on June 17, when a sea wave, caused probably by some earthquake shock under the ocean bed, rushed up the sharply rising gradient of the Pacific slope and overwhelmed the north-eastern coasts, causing a loss of some 27,000 lives. A month later a similar but smaller calamity visited the Chinese province of Kiang-su. Earthquake shocks of considerable severity occurred in Greece during the early months of the year, no less than sixty-six having been recorded in Zante alone.

GEOGRAPHY.

On August 13 Dr. Nansen arrived safely at Vardö after a three years' journey in the arctic regions, which has resulted not only in large additions to our knowledge of these inhospitable latitudes, but also in a brilliant proof of the correctness of the theory on which his expedition was based. This was briefly as follows: The finding on the coast of Greenland of driftwood from the Siberian rivers, and of relics of the *Jeannette* expedition, which was wrecked in 1884 near 160° E. longitude, showed there was an ocean current setting across the polar region from east to west. This current could be utilised to carry a ship if one could be built strong enough to resist the pressure of the ice, and if it were provisioned long enough to allow of sufficient time for this slow drifting to be completed. In accordance with this theory, which, when first propounded, met with little acceptance, Dr. Nansen sailed from Vardö in July, 1893, in a specially designed boat, the *Fram*. It is to the good design and special construction of this vessel that Nansen attributes much of the success of his adventurous expedition. The outward route lay along the northern coasts of Siberia, and even this part of the voyage was full of danger from ice and contrary storms of wind. Several islands were discovered which were not marked on any existing maps. Cape Chelyuskin was passed on September 10, and ten days later the New Siberian Islands were reached. On September 22 the *Fram* was made fast in the ice, and from that time till July, 1896, it drifted to and fro irregularly at the mercy of the winds and polar currents. In the last few days of 1894 the *Fram* passed the latitude 83° 24' N., the farthest north ever previously attained. This was gradually exceeded till on October 16, 1895, it reached 85° 57' N. latitude, in longitude 66° E. After struggling through 150 miles of ice, the *Fram* reached open water

in August, 1896, and returned to Tromsø. Long before this, however, Dr. Nansen with one companion had left the ship. On March 14, 1895, the two men started northward with three sledges, and after many difficulties succeeded by April 17 in reaching $86^{\circ} 14'$ N. in longitude 95° E., but the constant movement of the ice with its southward drift and uneven surface rendered further progress impossible. On the return journey Dr. Nansen made his way toward Franz Josef Land, and after long-continued struggles with ice reached land on August 6, in $81^{\circ} 38'$ N. This land consisted of four small islands, which were remarkable for the large number of the rare arctic bird Ross's gull. On August 18 the two explorers settled down for the winter on the north-western extremity of Franz Josef Land. Here they remained with no food but walrus and bear till the spring of 1896, when they again resumed their journey southward, and towards the end of June met Mr. Jackson, who had wintered in Franz Josef Land in charge of the Jackson-Harmsworth expedition. The full results of Dr. Nansen's journey are hardly yet accessible, but enough is already known to largely alter the existing ideas of polar geography. The polar region appears to be almost entirely free from land, the ocean deepens till soundings over 1,600 fathoms were frequently observed. Beneath the superficial layer of cold water is a layer of much warmer water, which is probably a prolongation of the Gulf Stream, and which rests on another colder layer below. The samples brought up from the bottom showed an absence of organic life. Numerous errors were noticed in the maps of the northern and western parts of Franz Josef Land. The temperatures experienced were frequently as much as 50° below zero, and only rarely exceeded the freezing-point even in summer. In spite of the continued low temperature and other drawbacks incidental to arctic exploration all the members of the expedition returned in safety and in good health. Thus without loss of life Dr. Nansen and his companions have approached nearer the Pole by 200 miles than any former explorer, while they have achieved one of the most remarkable and daring voyages ever planned. The exploration of Franz Josef Land has also been systematically carried out during the summer by Mr. F. G. Jackson, who started from his winter quarters on Cape Flora and made his way northwards, and discovered a large expanse of water which he has named Victoria Sea, in a latitude where land is shown on the maps of former expeditions. It is in fact clear that the so-called Franz Josef Land is merely a scattered group of islands none of which are of any large size. This, joined with the new facts about the polar area discovered by Nansen, renders the existence of any large mass of land in the north polar regions extremely improbable. Some of the members of the Jackson-Harmsworth party returned in the *Windward* at the close of the season, but the remainder are staying on for another winter. Some 200 miles nearer Europe lies Spitzbergen, which has received a large amount of attention. In fact so popular has it become that it now possesses a weekly steamer during the season from Hammerfest and boasts of a summer hotel at Advent Bay. Sir Martin Conway, thirsting for new glaciers to conquer, established himself at Ice Fjord in the centre of the western coast, and in company with Dr.

J. W. Gregory, Mr. Trevor Battye and Mr. E. J. Garwood, carried out a series of interesting journeys through this inhospitable region. Thus, Conway succeeded for the first time in crossing the central mass of inland ice, while Messrs. Battye and Garwood made the first ascent of Horn Sound Tind, the highest point in the southern part of the main island and which is estimated as about 4,500 feet high. Sir Martin Conway also visited King Karl Island, passing from his headquarters round the north of the main island and then through the strait which separates it from North-East Land. This was not, however, the only party which visited Spitzbergen during the year. The venturesome attempt to cross the polar ice by means of a balloon was to have had this island as starting-point. Dr. Andrée arrived there with his plant and fellow-voyagers rather later than they had intended. Additional delay was also caused by the prevalence of storms which interfered with the filling of the balloon, and then, when everything was almost ready for the start, head winds finally led to the attempt being abandoned, owing to the lateness of the season. It is understood that Dr. Andrée intends to renew his attempt during the present summer. A survey of the sea round the Danish settlements in Greenland and round Iceland has been carried out by a Danish Government expedition. One of the most valuable results was the discovery of a long ridge of volcanic origin running out seaward from the south-east point of the island for a distance of sixty miles, at a depth from the surface of about thirty to forty fathoms. Lieutenant Peary made another voyage to Greenland, primarily with the object of securing a huge meteorite which had been discovered in 1818 by Sir John Ross near Cape York. The meteorite proved, however, to be too big for the appliances at his command. The *Hope*, which took him to Cape York, also carried Professors R. Tarr and Burton, who made a series of observations on the ice phenomena of Northern Greenland. The northern territories of Canada and the United States are gradually being systematically visited and mapped. During the past year Dr. Robert Bell has been investigating the region to the south of Hudson's Bay, and carried out further surveys on the large river discovered by him, of which mention has been previously made. He also mapped several of the tributaries of this river. In Labrador Mr. Low continued his work on the little known interior of this vast tract of country; while in the north-west the boundary between Canada and Alaska has been traced for the Canadian Government by Mr. W. Ogilvie. The work of African exploration progresses year by year with increasing rapidity, owing to the growth of political and commercial interests in that continent. Delimitation of frontiers has been carried on between Sierra Leone and French territory by an Anglo-French commission, on which Colonel J. K. Trotter was the British representative. Colonel Trotter visited the source of the Niger, and, with his French colleagues, surveyed and mapped a large tract of country. The Niger rises in a region about 2,500 feet above the sea level, and situated in latitude $9^{\circ} 5' \text{ N.}$, and longitude $10^{\circ} 50' \text{ E.}$ The boundary between Sierra Leone and Liberia was also fixed during the year by Major Grant. Between Lagos and Dahomey the boundary has been marked out as far as 9° N. by Messrs. Fuller and Fowler acting for

Great Britain, and Captain Plé and Lieutenant Brisson on behalf of the French Government. A full account has been received of Dr. Donaldson Smith's travels in Somaliland and the adjoining countries. In spite of the opposition of King Menelek of Abyssinia he succeeded in connecting his line of march with that of Teleki, and in penetrating some hundred miles to the north of Lake Rudolf. Dr. Smith has brought back a large collection of the flora and fauna. Among the latter are twenty-four new species of birds, eleven of reptiles, four of fish, besides a new ichneumon and a specimen of the very rare crested rat. In the region to the north of Lake Stefanie a race of dwarfs was met with. These dwarfs were remarkably uniform in size, being about five feet in height, and resembling in many respects the pigmies described by Emir and Stanley. These little people were known as Dume, and Dr. Smith is disposed to consider them as the remains of an aboriginal African race. Farther north along the Red Sea littoral Mr. J. T. Bent has continued his explorations. His work of last year comprised a coast trip from Koseir to Sewakin (Suakin) with short inland excursions to Haidile and Mohamed Gol, in the course of which he discovered remains of ancient gold workings. Owing to the dervishes even these excursions were not unattended with danger. In the German territory of the Cameroons some useful exploring work has been done by Lieutenant Brauchitsch, who made his way along the south side of the river Sanaga, the north side of which was explored by Ramsay in 1892. In the course of his journey he discovered the Bajops tribe, who had never previously seen a white man. The river Sanaga itself is little better than a long succession of rapids. In German East Africa a number of travellers have been at work with the object of developing the resources of the territory. Thus Lieutenant Grawert has been testing the navigability of the lower Rufiji, while Dr. Scholles has been opening up new routes between Kilimanjaro and the Victoria Nyanza. The preliminary survey for the railway between Dar es Salaam and Lake Tanganyika has been carried as far as Tabora. In the dry season Captain Johannes was able to lead an expedition across the Masai Steppe from Mossi to Umbugwe, near Lake Manyara, without suffering from want of water. In British Central Africa the exploration of Lake Mweru and the Upper Luapula has been carried on by Mr. Blair Watson and Mr. Weatherly. The fauna of Lake Nyassa and Tanganyika have been investigated by Mr. Moore, acting for the Royal Society, and the flora of Nyassaland, especially in the region round Mount Milanji, have been studied by Dr. Whyte. Valuable reports on the resources of Nyassaland have also been received from Mr. H. H. Johnston, H.M. Commissioner in that region. To the north of the Zambesi an important expedition into the Barotse country has been carried out. Captain Gibbons, who was in command, ascended the Zambesi to Lialui's town and then made his way eastward across the Majili. Two other members of his party ascended the Majili and then struck across country to their starting-point on the Zambesi. By these journeys a large extent of comparatively new country was opened out. Captain Lugard has continued his work of control by exploring Lake Ngami and the districts lying to the north of it. His operations have, however, been materially hindered by the rinderpest. Two French travellers, M. Versepuy and

Baron de Somans, have succeeded in crossing Africa from east to west by way of Lake Albert, the equatorial forest, and the Congo. Some three years ago Lieutenant Hourst started from Senegal to explore the region of the Niger. In January last, his expedition left Kabara, the port of Timbaktu, and after a long journey reached Akassa in October. This has never before been done in one journey, and Lieutenant Hourst was thus enabled to correct and complete the mapping of the less known parts of the great river. The journey of the Rev. C. H. Robinson in Hausaland also deserves mention. Mr. Robinson visited Kano and Sokoto for the Hausa Association. He considers that the Hausa language will become with Swahili and Arabic the dominant native languages of Africa. The development of Uganda and the opening up of the country for trade and settlement has been carried on during the year with great energy. Mr. A. H. Neumann has made his way from the south to the extreme north of the British sphere of influence at Lake Rudolf, and thus joined his survey of the country with that made by Captain Bottego from the east. In the Nandi district, Lieutenant Vandeleur has added to our knowledge of this almost unknown part of Africa, while Mr. Hobley, Dr. Kolb, Lieutenant Sclater, and others, have made several valuable surveys of various parts of this region. The work done by Captain Bottego in Somaliland, starting from the river Jub and covering the country as far as Lake Rudolf, has been supplemented in Northern Somaliland by Mr. Parkinson, Prince Ghika, and others. A proof of the thorough manner in which African exploration is now carried out is shown in the records of meteorological observations for certain stations in British East Africa, which have been published by the British Association, and in the observations now being made of the fluctuations of level in the waters of the great lakes. African exploration has sustained the loss of two famous travellers in Gerhard Rohlfs and Joseph Thomson. The journeys of Rohlfs in Tripoli and Abyssinia were brilliant examples of courage and skill, while to the fame of Joseph Thomson, the explorer of Masailand, it may be said that in all his travels through some of the fiercest tribes in Africa he never shed the blood of a single native.

In Asia Captain Roborovsky and Lieutenant Kozloff have continued the work of Prjevalsky in Central Asia. The centre for their expedition has been fixed at the famous low level area Lukchun, which they estimate to be some 100 to 300 feet below the sea level. A journey from Ladak eastward, undertaken by Mr. Pike and Captain Deasy with the object of investigating the hydrography of the district, resulted in failure owing to difficulties of transport. In another direction Captain Welby and Lieutenant Malcolm were more fortunate, as they succeeded in crossing Tibet, leaving Kashmir in April and arriving at Shanghai towards the end of the year. Dr. Sven Hedin continued his exploration work by travelling through Yarkand, Karghalik and Khotan to Kiria. He then crossed the desert region between the Khotan and Tarim Daria to Shah Yar. Thence he followed the course of the Tarim to Lob Nor. This lake, he finds, shifts its position from year to year, drying up at one place and forming in another. From Lob Nor he returned to Khotan, following the base of the Kuen Lun mountain

chain. Dr. Sven Hedin's journey of 286 miles across the Takla Makan desert in twenty-three days was a most marvellous example of peril and endurance. The whole distance consisted of nothing but shifting sand dunes. Not only was the expedition in danger of being lost in this awful wilderness, but it did actually all but perish owing to want of water. A very full summary of existing knowledge of the northern slopes of the Himalayas was given by Sir Clements Markham in his annual address to the Royal Geographical Society, and a valuable memoir dealing with the geography of the Pamirs and embodying the results of the work done by various travellers in those regions has been published by Mr. Curzon. Russian enterprise is leading to a series of investigations in the country lying immediately to the south of the Siberian border. Thus Mr. Chaffanjon has followed up his journey across Mongolia to Irkutsk by starting from this latter place and returning to Vladivostok by way of Dalai Nor and the Khinghan Mountains. Manchuria is also being explored in the interests of railway extension by Mr. Murakin. General Glukovsky has been mapping the basin of the Amu Darya with the object of ascertaining its capabilities for navigation in connection with a proposed Caspian canal.

In South America geographical exploration has, with few exceptions, been carried on with the view of determining disputed boundary questions. Of this nature are the surveys of the Upper Kuyuni by Lieutenant Godfrey Faussett, and the Xingu basin has similarly been surveyed by M. Coudreau and Dr. H. Meyer acting independently. Similarly Dr. H. Steffen has been mapping the Upper Puelo and its tributary the Maneo, in order to assist in the determination of the main range of the Cordilleras. The Argentine slope of the Andes has been surveyed by a Government party under the command of Dr. F. P. Moreno, the director of the Museum of La Plata, in the course of which some 25,000 miles of country have been traversed. The chief event of purely scientific interest has been the repeated attempts of Mr. E. A. Fitzgerald and his companions to reach the summit of Aconcagua, the highest mountain in America. Our knowledge of oceanic depths has been materially advanced by the soundings carried out by H.M.S. *Penguin*. Between latitude $23^{\circ} 30'$ and $30^{\circ} 27' S.$, and longitude 175° and $176^{\circ} 30' W.$, an area was found to exist, in which bottom was reached at various depths from 5,000 to 5,155 fathoms (nearly six miles). The sounding line showed that the marine floor was here covered with a reddish clay. In the Red Sea exploring work has been carried out by the Austrian ship *Pola*, and in the Atlantic the Prince of Monaco has discovered, fifty miles south of the Azores, a ridge of rocks rising within three feet of the surface.

The plan proposed by Professor Penck for a uniform map of the world on the scale of 1:100,000 has been approved by the International Geographical Congress. A series of geographical memoirs, based on the one-inch British Ordnance survey, has been approved by the Council of the Royal Geographical Society, and the initial volume on part of Sussex has been undertaken by Dr. H. R. Mill.

ASTRONOMY.

Elaborate preparations were made for the observation of the total eclipse of the sun which occurred on August 9. The line of totality passed along the extreme north of Norway, through Novaya Zemlya, Siberia, Manchuria, and Japan. Observing parties were stationed at Vadsö in Norway and at Yesso in Japan by a committee chosen by the Royal Society and the Royal Astronomical Society. Both these expeditions were practically failures owing to bad weather, the sun being obscured by clouds. It was, however, noticed at Vadsö that the darkness at the middle of the eclipse was less marked than has been usually reported. This effect may probably be due to the diffusion of light from high cloud areas, as at Böö when the sky was clear three of the planets could be seen. Sir G. Baden Powell took Mr. Stone and Mr. Shackleton to Novaya Zemlya, and these three observers were favoured with fine weather, and were enabled to take a number of photographs of the spectrum, of the prominences and the corona. The Russian station in North Finland, and also those in West Siberia, were also fortunate in the matter of weather. Professor Kaulbars, who was stationed in Finland, remarked that the corona appeared to be larger than usual, and at Böö one observer was able to distinguish one of the red prominences with the naked eye. The full results of the successful observations have not yet been worked out, but it is of interest to notice that Sir G. Baden Powell's expedition will be the one to which the greatest advance in our knowledge of solar structure will be due. Mr. Shackleton was enabled to take two photographs of the spectrum, taken within two seconds of each other, in which the first showed a narrow spectrum of bright lines, consisting of the Fraunhofer lines reversed, which appear again in the second photograph in their usual dark form. This phenomenon was noticed by Professor Young at the eclipse in 1870, but no photographic record of this reversal had been obtained till Mr. Shackleton succeeded in doing so. It was necessary to time the exposure to commence at a definite second of the eclipse and to regulate the length of the exposure with similar accuracy. It would appear from this photograph that Professor Young's theory is correct, that the dark lines of the spectrum owe their origin to a layer comparatively low down in the sun's atmosphere, the bulk of the absorbing effect of the heavy metallic vapours being thus exerted within a short distance of the chromosphere. Professor Young, who has examined the photograph obtained by Mr. Shackleton, states that most of the important Fraunhofer lines find their correlatives in the "flash spectrum." The differences thus shown to exist between upper and lower layers of the sun's atmosphere have been further developed by Mr. Jewell of Johns Hopkins University, who has found from a series of measurements of solar photographs that the outer and inner portions of the chromosphere differ in rotation period by several days. The acceleration is greatest in the equatorial region of the outer portions of the chromosphere, the rotation period increasing as the photosphere is approached. A somewhat similar phenomenon in the case of the planet Saturn was noted last year. The much-debated question of the existence of a lunar

atmosphere has been again raised by Professor Pickering, who finds that the observations made of the shadows thrown by the lunar mountains near the time of new moon always show a penumbra such as might be caused by a very rare atmosphere of a density comparable with that of the earth at a height of forty miles. Another vexed question—the rotation period of Venus—has been advanced a step nearer solution. Professor Mascari, of Catania, has noticed certain dark patches on the surface of the planet which appeared practically unaltered in position after two hours' consecutive observation. If the rotation period was only twenty-three hours these patches should obviously have altered in position in that length of time. This strengthens the conclusions of Tacchini, Schiaparelli, and others, who, in contradistinction to the older observers, consider that the period of rotation of the planet round its axis is the same as that of its rotation round the sun. In the case of Saturn Dr. Belopolsky, at Pultowa, has determined the rate of movement of the inner and outer edge of Saturn's ring, and finds that his observations agree with those calculated by Professor Keeler from his spectroscopic observations. Further subdivisions of the inner bright ring have been noticed by M. Antoniadi, consisting of one well-defined band visible in a 6½-inch refractor, and two other fainter ones which he was only just able to make out with a 9½-inch equatorial with a magnifying power of 300 diameters. Before leaving the planets it may be noticed that 1896 was the fiftieth year since the discovery of Neptune by Adams and Leverrier. The additions to the number of minor planets still continue, owing chiefly to the method adopted by Professor Max Wolf in 1891. By means of photography the small orbital motion of a planet can be detected, and thus thirteen new bodies have been discovered by him during the past year. The total number of these bodies now known is 422. According to M. Coniel No. 391 approaches the earth more nearly than any other asteroid, and Dr. Berberich has calculated that Ottilia (No. 401) has a revolution period almost exactly half that of Jupiter. Some seven new comets have also been discovered during the year. The third of these is a periodic comet known as Brooks (1889, V.), and was observed by M. Javelle at Nice within 6' of its calculated place. This comet passed its perihelion position on November 3. The first two new comets of the year discovered respectively by M. Perrine on February 16, and by Mr. Swift on April 15, are remarkable for the fact that the major axes of the orbits lie nearly in the plane of the ecliptic. The orbit of Swift's comet is apparently parabolic. A faint telescopic comet was discovered at Ohio on August 31 by Mr. Sperra, and a new periodic comet with an orbit of six and a half years was discovered by M. Giacobini at Nice. Numerous observations were made during the later days of 1895 and the beginning of 1896 on the comet discovered by M. Perrine on November 16. This comet showed from day to day rapid alterations in the size and number of its tails. The spectrum of the comet showed bright bands of carbon and nitrogen on the usual faint continuous spectrum band. In stellar astronomy progress has been made in the preparation of the international photographic record of the heavens. The third meeting of the committee was held

in Paris in May, when reports from the co-operating observatories showed that most of the series of catalogue plates which they had agreed to furnish were now ready. Dr. Gill, at the Cape Observatory, has completed his photographs of all stars to the tenth magnitude, and a substantial portion of the work has been printed. Many additions have been made to the list of stars accompanied by a fainter companion. Thus Professor Schaeberle has discovered a star of the thirteenth magnitude accompanying Procyon, and distant from it $4\frac{1}{2}''$. The companion to Sirius, discovered by Mr. Alvan Clark in 1862, was re-observed this year by Dr. See, of Lowell Observatory, Arizona, and its distance and position angle have been determined. Dr. H. C. Vogel has detected the presence of the helium line D_3 in the spectrum of β Lyræ, and many other stars in the constellation Orion. Mr. S. C. Chandler has found that the variable star U. Pegasi has its periods of maximum and minimum equal, the increase and decrease being uniform. It is, therefore, of a different type to *Algol*, to which it was formerly compared. With the development of stellar photography the number of variable stars may be expected to largely increase. Thus some photographs of star clusters, taken at Arequipa, appear to show an unusual number of alterations of magnitude; a range of two magnitudes may thus be recorded in a few hours. New nebulæ were discovered by Mr. H. Wilson and by Mr. Innes, both being rather condensed and star-like in appearance. A ring nebula, discovered by Mr. Gale, may be noticed near the star λ in the southern constellation Grus. This nebula appears to possess a central area almost entirely free from nebular matter. It lies with its major axis nearly parallel to the meridian. On the other hand, Dr. Barnard has been unable to find the nebula discovered by Dr. Hind near the star T. Tauri, even with the aid of a 36-inch refractor.

The adoption of a universal time reckoning from the meridian of Greenwich has been advanced by the adhesion of Australia, Natal, and in a less degree Cape Colony. Natal time is now exactly two hours in advance of Greenwich time. Australia, like the United States and Canada, has been divided into hour zones, of which the boundaries have been fixed by political or commercial reasons.

A new observatory was opened last April on Blackford Hill at Edinburgh, which owes its existence mainly to the munificent bequests of Lord Crawford. Other observatories have been opened in Ohio, Minnesota and Pennsylvania, provided either by state funds or by private donations.

Among the deaths of the year may be noted those of Professor Krueger, aged sixty-four, Director of the Observatory at Kiel; of M. Tisserand, aged fifty-two, Director of the National Observatory at Paris; of Professor H. A. Newton of Yale, aged sixty-six; of General J. T. Walker, late Surveyor-General of India; of Professor Gylden of Stockholm, Professor Moeller of Lund, Dr. Gould of Cordoba, and Mr. Charles Chambers of Bombay.

Mention should be made of the ingenious observations carried on by Mr. A. W. Clayden at Exeter on the height of clouds. He has been able to measure the height of various types of clouds of one-half to seventeen miles. Clouds in process of formation tend to rise in height. The actual altitudes observed range from half a mile to seventeen miles.

GEOLOGY.

Considerable progress has been made during the past year in the work of proving the value of the Kentish coal seams. A seventeen-foot shaft has been sunk for some 400 feet and another of twice the width has also been carried to a considerable depth, although still far short of the coal measures themselves, which begin about 1,100 feet below the surface. A good four-foot seam of coal has been shown to exist 1,000 feet lower. The corresponding French and Belgian strata are, however, often worked at far greater depths. Thus at Mons coal is mined from strata 3,900 feet below the pit's mouth.

The recent expeditions to the arctic regions have resulted in considerable additions to our knowledge of glacial geology. Thus Colonel H. W. Fielder has shown that the lofty chain of the Lofoden Islands has never been covered with a continental ice sheet, nor did this ice sheet envelop even the whole of Novaya Zemlya. He considers that in regions such as this the ice action apparent was due rather to marine than land sources, and Mr. Trevor Battye on Kolguev Island ascribes a series of 250 feet of glacial strata to floating ice, these strata having afterwards suffered upheaval to their present position. In the southern hemisphere Professor T. Edgeworth David has continued his work on the evidences of ice action over the Australasian area. He concludes that in Permian or Carboniferous times, or rather in the transition period between the two eras, there was an ice movement from south to north which has left its traces on beds often 2,000 feet in thickness. These traces have been identified along the eastern districts from Tasmania to Queensland. The ice movement must have been of long duration and have extended over a land area reaching more eastward and southward than at present.

In our own country Messrs. Bemrose and Deeley have discovered in an interglacial bed at Allerton, near Derby, remains of hippopotamus, rhinoceros and elephas, showing the well-marked climate variations which occurred probably more than once during what is known as the glacial epoch. Reasoning backward from the present to the past, Professor E. Hull concludes that the Nile is merely a shrunken remnant of a once far mightier river. The origin of the river itself he places in Miocene times, and the gradual shrinkage is due to the decreasing rainfall as well as the diversion in the course of ages of some of its principal tributaries.

These secondary strata, owing to their variety and palæontological interest, always command a large share of geological attention. Among the more interesting points in the year's work may be noted the recognition by Dr. H. Woodward in a fossil brought by Captain Newbold from the cretaceous strata of the Lebanon so long ago as 1846 of an octopod. To this, the earliest octopod known, Dr. Woodward has given the name of *Calais Newboldi*. Messrs. A. J. Jukes Browne and W. Hill have made a careful comparison between the gault, greensand and lower chalk of the English strata with the albien and cénomanien of the French side of the channel. They conclude that the cénomanien of Havre and Rouen is simply a southern extension of the lower chalk formed

in a somewhat shallower sea and nearer a coast line. Mr. H. Woods has continued his valuable researches on cretaceous mollusca and has published his work on those found in the cream-coloured limestone on the top of the middle chalk. This limestone is a comparatively shallow water formation rich in fossils, and Mr. Woods proposes to distinguish it by the name of its most characteristic fossil as the zone of *Heteroceras Reussinum*. He apparently ascribes to the zone a slightly earlier date than that of the zone of *Holaster planus* of Barrois and others. The work of correlating the strata of different localities has also been very carefully carried out by Professor A. P. Pavlov and Mr. G. W. Lamplugh in their work on the Speeton beds and Kimeridge clay in Russia and elsewhere. Six typical Russian localities were taken and comparisons drawn between the lithological and fossil characteristics of their beds and those of similar age in North Germany, South-east France, Boulogne, South of England and North of England. The line of division between the jurassic and cretaceous rocks receives special treatment in this interesting research.

Good work has also been done among the older rocks. Miss Crosfield and Miss Skeat have traced the Tremadoc beds eastward as far as Carmarthen, and have also added to the number of the known species of British trilobites. Dr. J. W. Gregory has studied the schistes lustrés of Mont Jovet, near Moutiers, and agrees with Zaccagna that they must be definitely accepted as of Precarboniferous age. The formation of crystalline character by long-continued pressure has been shown by the publication of experiments by W. Spring. In these experiments powdered chalk has been submitted for upwards of seventeen years to a pressure of about 6,000 atmospheres in steel cylinders. The outside of the chalk was found to be markedly crystalline and to be discoloured to some extent by the gradual passage of iron into it. A careful compilation of the areas which are the seat of earthquake phenomena in the British Empire has been made by a French naval officer, M. F. de M. de Ballore. It will probably be a surprise to many persons to know that in the British Isles alone there are ten well-marked earthquake areas, and that no less than 1,023 shocks have at various times been recorded in some 221 localities. A boring in the reefs of the Ellice Islands by Professor Sollas, with the object of testing the truth of Darwin's hypothesis of the formation of coral islands, has been made, but without supplying sufficient data to settle the question.

CHEMISTRY.

Organic chemistry becomes each year more and more a matter for the specialist, and the results of most of the recent researches in this branch of science have little general interest even for chemists themselves. Mr. A. S. Perkin has continued his work on colouring matters and the effect of light on their permanency, and has devoted his attention specially to the yellows and oranges. His results cannot fail to be of great value to the manufacturer, and through him to the general public. By the death of August Kekulé organic chemists have lost one who may rightly be described as almost the founder of their science. The theory

of the constitution of benzene, which we owe to Kekulé, has not only served as a basis on which to erect all our knowledge of its innumerable derivatives, but it has succeeded in holding its ground practically unchanged since its first enunciation. Inorganic chemistry is still enjoying the attention attracted by the discoveries of argon and helium. M. H. Berthelot has made renewed efforts to induce the former gas to enter into combination with other elements, and claims to have to some extent succeeded. By the continued action of electric sparks on a mixture of argon and benzene vapour, 83 per cent. of the argon disappeared, and a yellow resinous highly carbonated body gradually collected on the walls of the tube in which the experiment was conducted. M. Berthelot thinks that when larger quantities of argon are obtainable the difficulties attending its initial inertness will be overcome, and that in combination it will be found to have as energetic a chemical character as nitrogen. Helium itself is probably not a simple element. By diffusion Ramsay and Collie have shown it can be separated into two distinct parts, one having a specific gravity of 1.874 and a refractive index of .1350, while the other has a specific gravity of 2.133 and a refractive index of .1524. This double character of helium has also been confirmed by the spectroscopic observations of Runge and Paschen. Professor Ramsay also found that at ordinary pressure helium is a better conductor of electricity than any other gas, but that as the pressure decreases it loses this characteristic, and finally conducts worse than other gases. Lord Rayleigh has found that argon has nearly the same refractivity to light as is possessed by oxygen or nitrogen. The allotropic modification of oxygen known as ozone has been studied by O. Brunck, who has discovered that the formation and decomposition of this gas are by no means simple. Thus ozone is generally decomposed into oxygen by a temperature of 270° , but if oxygen is passed over manganese dioxide heated to 400° ozone can be readily detected in the gas stream. The general decrease of chemical activity at low temperatures has been already shown by Dewar and others. R. Pictet, by researches in this direction, finds that at -120° oxygen ceases to combine with nitric oxide, that the bleaching action of chlorine or of sulphurous acid disappears at -60° , while the combination of hydrogen and chlorine under the influence of magnesium light ceases at a temperature of -25° .

The redetermination of some anomalous vapour densities has been carried out by H. Biltz by the use of some special glazed porcelain vessels capable of withstanding a heat of nearly $2,000^{\circ}$ without deformation. He finds that at high temperatures many substances have a normal vapour density. Selenium and tellurium possess diatomic molecules at $1,700^{\circ}$, and arsenic trioxide obeys the usual law of gaseous compounds at $1,800^{\circ}$. The continued controversy on the elemental character of cobalt has resulted in the publication by Remmler of work showing that cobalt contains varying quantities of an unknown element, and, on the other hand, of determinations by Hempel and Thiele of its elementary character, with an atomic weight of 58.765. A new element has been detected in some samarium residues by E. Demarçay, who finds that the nitrates of samarium and gadolinium

contain a third nitrate whose solubility in nitric acid is intermediate between the two. Professor Roberts Austen has continued his interesting work on alloys of gold, and Professor Arnold has also extended his work from iron and steel to the action of bismuth, copper, gold and other metals. The full force of these researches is hardly yet apparent. It is, however, clear that without any liquefaction the molecules of one metal can gradually intermix with those of another; and that in solids a process of diffusion goes on comparable in some respects with that which occurs so rapidly and completely with gases. Thus if a cylinder of gold be pressed upon a disc of lead the lead will be found in time to have diffused into the gold in degree varying with the distance from the disc to the layer analysed. In the same way Professor Arnold has shown that if a ring of iron be placed in close contact round a cylinder of steel, and the mass is heated for a certain time at a temperature below the melting point, the flow of the iron carbide can readily be traced. He has also shown that the brittleness induced in gold by the presence of as little as 2 per cent. of bismuth is due to the separation of the gold crystals from one another by an intervening lamina of the brittle metal, all coherence between the gold crystals being thus prevented.

In physical chemistry the work of H. Trey on the rotatory power of glyose solutions shows that there is a gradual loss owing probably to the substance in solution changing from a more or less crystalline to a more or less amorphous character. The same loss of rotatory power has been noticed in other sugars by Tanret, while Nasini and Gennari have shown that in the case of malic acid continued dilution so affects the rotatory power that while strong solutions, 72 to 40 per cent., are strongly dextrorotatory, weak solutions, 33 to 4 per cent., show a distinct and increasing lævorotatory power. The numerical relationships between the atomic weights have been again studied by Professor J. Thomsen. He finds that most of the atomic weights can be expressed by a formula $A + na$ in which A equals a constant quantity $\cdot 012$ and a and n are integers. The increasing industrial importance of calcium carbide as a source of acetylene has led to the study of other bodies of similar composition. H. Moissan finds that while many carbides decompose water—as calcium carbide does—producing acetylene, yet uranium carbide yields in addition a plentiful supply of liquid and solid hydrocarbons as well, two-thirds of the combined carbon taking these forms. As a final matter of theoretical interest may be mentioned the detection of gallium in the ores of the Cleveland districts by Hartley and Ramage in the course of their spectroscopic observations of the gases of the Bessemer converter. M. Moissan has succeeded in forming in his electric furnace a compound of carbon and boron which exceeds in hardness the diamond itself. It is of a shiny black colour and may probably be utilised in the formation of boring tools.

PHYSICS.

The subject of chief interest to physicists during the past year has been investigation of the rays discovered by Professor Röntgen, of which

mention was made in the summary for 1895. In spite of experiments and observations made by a large number of persons the nature of these rays still remains doubtful and no adequate explanation has been given of their effects. It will perhaps be best to summarise the main facts now known with regard to this radiation, even at the risk of repeating some of the discoveries already mentioned. More than twenty years ago Crookes showed that electrical discharges passing through a tube containing highly rarefied gas exhibited a number of novel phenomena, which have now become matters of common knowledge. A few years ago Lenard showed that if a piece of thin aluminium foil took the place of part of the glass of a Crookes tube certain rays, the so-called "kathode rays," passed through it and made their influence felt for a short distance outside the tube. The Röntgen or "X" rays, as their discoverer calls them, differ from these kathode rays in their power of passing through the glass, at least through certain kinds of soda or potash glass, and in being propagated for considerable distances outside the tube. As already mentioned they are capable of acting on an ordinary photographic plate, although a daguerreotype plate is not affected, according to Maurain, nor is a collodion film if backed by a ferrotype plate (Abney). The penetrating power of these rays is peculiar. There does not appear to be any difference between different substances depending on their power of conducting electricity, although certain non-conductors such as ebonite are especially transparent. On the other hand this transparency appears to be connected with density; thus lead glass is less permeable than soda glass, and lead or mercury more opaque than tinfoil or aluminium. Wood and black paper are comparatively transparent; bone, on the other hand, is opaque. Organic bodies or carbon compounds are generally transparent—the introduction of a metallic or mineral constituent produces opacity (Meslans). The rays are best obtained by employing a tube containing a cup-shaped kathode so placed as to exert its radiating effect on an obliquely placed plate of platinum from which the radiation strikes the wall of the tube. This gradually affects the tube, altering the structure of the glass and thereby affecting the external radiation. The rays are best received on a screen coated with platinocyanide of potassium or barium, which under the influence of the rays becomes strongly fluorescent. According to Battelli a Crookes tube emits rays for some little time after the exciting current has been stopped. The rays exert no heating effect (Villari) but their electrical effect is both unexpected and important. They rapidly discharge any negatively electrified body and reduce the charge, if they do not entirely remove it, when the body is positively electrified. Lafay asserts that they ultimately charge a body positively, but Perrin denies that this is the case, and states that not even a charge of $\frac{1}{10}$ volt can be observed. The rays are unaffected by a magnet, in this presenting a very important difference between these rays and the radiation within the Crookes tube, although some observers say that a magnetic effect becomes noticeable when the rays have passed through a sheet of conducting material electrically charged. On the other hand the kathode rays of Lenard are affected by a magnet. A Crookes radiometer placed in the X rays has its motion stopped, though this is, according to Righi, an electrical effect and does not occur if the

glass of the radiometer is carefully washed free from any existing charge. The electrical discharging power of the rays is communicable to gases, and air through which the rays have passed possesses the power of discharging electrified bodies and can be deprived of this power by filtration through cotton wool. The action of the rays on an electroscope is prevented by a wire cage. No refraction of the X rays has been noticed with prisms of mica or of carbon disulphide or of water. Certain observers, however, appear to have obtained some evidence of reflection, of interference, and even of refraction, phenomena which should be present if the X rays are in any way similar to ordinary light. Rays of ultra-violet light of very short wave length would not have very great refractive power, and it is therefore possible that the X rays may possess somewhat similar properties. The source of the X rays is placed by some observers at the kathode inside the Crookes tube. H. A. Rowland and others find that it is the radiation from the anode which produces the effect. According to Roiti, the X rays are produced at whatever spot the kathode rays impinge, while Gerard and Bordar think the rays come from both anode and kathode. Most observers, however, now agree with Imbert and D'Arsonval that the origin of the rays is the surface of the glass where it is rendered luminous by the internal radiation falling upon it. Thus, Puluje thinks that a stream of negatively electrified particles torn from the kathode impinge on the glass walls of the tube and there equalise their varying electrical charges and call forth, in doing so, a disturbance not only of the molecules of the glass, but also of their ether envelopes. Boltzmann suggests that this ether disturbance takes the form of longitudinal vibrations of great wave length, whereas the kathode rays are of short wave length, though also longitudinal in character. The fluorescence produced by the X rays is not the same as that of ordinary light, nor do ordinary sources of illumination appear to contain X rays. Thus a sheet of black paper will protect a photographic plate against the action of the light from an arc lamp, while it is readily pervious to the X rays from a Crookes tube. H. Becquerel, however, has found that certain invisible rays from phosphorescent substances such as sulphide of calcium will pass through aluminium foil two millimetres thick, or through black paper, and Troost asserts that the artificial blende discovered by himself and Deville can be used after exposure to sunlight as a source of X rays. Becquerel, however, states that the radiation noticed by him can be reflected and refracted, while with other observers any effect of this kind in the case of the X rays seems more of the nature of irregular diffusion than of true reflection. The study of phosphorescence has been stimulated by these and similar observations. Thus, cold has been found not only to increase the phosphorescent effect as shown at very low temperature by Dewar, but it also retards or prolongs the actual emission of light, according to the experiments of Henry. Edison and Bleekrode have also shown that a low temperature increases the penetrating power of X rays. Le Bon has even gone farther and professes to have obtained from the light of an ordinary lamp certain dark rays which can exert a photographic effect even through a sheet of iron, or films of aluminium, copper or zinc. These effects are,

however, ascribed by Niewenglowski and others to phosphorescence in the materials employed. It is, however, clear that the X rays still await explanation. Professor Dewar has continued his researches on the properties of bodies at low temperature. In conjunction with Professor Fleming he has measured the electrical conductivity of various metals at temperatures approaching the absolute zero -273° C. The behaviour of liquid oxygen is especially interesting, as it is not only more magnetisable than any salt of iron, but is a very perfect insulator, and possesses a high dielectric capacity. Professor Fleming has also carried out some interesting researches on electric currents. Thus in an alternating arc he has shown that there are for each reversal of current two phases of maximum and one of minimum intensity. He has also studied the Edison lamp effect in which a current flows from the positive terminal of a glow lamp to a insulated plate fixed in the lamp unconnected with the circuits. This current is in Professor Fleming's opinion balanced by an internal negative current inside the lamp from the other terminal to the insulated plate. Mr. F. Sanford has pointed out that the electric conductivity of wires varies slightly with the surrounding dielectric, being, for example, greater in petroleum than in air. Sahulka has shown that with a continuous electric current the arc between poles of carbon and iron is greater when the current flows from the carbon to the iron than when it passes in the opposite direction, and Mr. F. Gold has carried this observation further by showing that even if an alternating current is used a continuous current nevertheless passes from the carbon to the iron. A simple and sensitive form of indicator for Hertzian waves has been invented by Wilsing and Scheiner. This consists of a galvanometer and cell arranged in series with two parallel wires connected by a small piece of wire laid lightly across them to form a bridge. A comparison of the magnetic instruments used at Kew, Falmouth, Cahirciveen and Stonyhurst has been carried out by Professor Rucker and Mr. Watson, using for the purpose the instruments employed in the recent magnetic survey of the British Isles. By this means the observations at each place will admit of more accurate comparison. Work such as this would in Germany be carried on by the Reichsanstalt at Charlottenburg, where accurate physical measurements can be carried out with the help of the state. During the year an appeal was made by an influential deputation to the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the establishment of a similar physical laboratory in this country, but it is perhaps needless to say the appeal went without any favourable response.

In the domain of light some interesting observations have been made. Mr. R. A. Millikan has examined the light emitted from incandescent metals such as platinum or silver. Such light has been discovered to be partly polarised, and this polarisation is, according to this observer, due to an effect in the light emerging from the body itself and suffering repeated reflection and refraction before it finally gets free. The purely reflecting power of a metal is not affected by incandescence. Under certain circumstances light appears to discharge an electrified body. When this occurs it is always a negatively

electrified body which is discharged most rapidly and most completely. As a standard for illuminating power the use of acetylene diluted with a known volume of air and burnt from a special burner has been recommended by Violle, Fessenden and others on the ground of its uniformity and ready adaptability, in place of the pentane burner of Harcourt. But the chief interest in the science of light has lain with the development of photography in colours by Lippmann, Ives, Bennetto and others. Lippmann's results are produced by taking advantage of the colour effect of thin films, but his photographs can only be viewed by reflected light and are not capable of reproduction. Mr. Ives takes three different prints of the same object through different coloured screens, and then recombines the result by an ingenious apparatus to form a single stereoscopic picture. Dr. Joly photographs his picture through a screen of very fine lines, coloured alternately blue, green and red, and then by showing the picture with the same screen reproduces in some degree the original colour effect. The new process, however, which is due to M. Villedieu-Chassagne, depends upon the treatment of the negative with a special colourless solution, the composition of which is kept a secret. The positive is treated with the same solution, and then after exposure is treated with three other solutions—red, green and indigo blue respectively. It is claimed that the first solution gives a selective power to the silver film by which it seizes those colours which are like those the light from which caused its deposition. The result is more interesting for its scientific bearing than for its artistic result.

An ingenious modification of the radiometer has been invented by Mr. A. R. Bennett. This instrument, which he calls a convectionscope, can be used to determine dew point or specific heat. Like the radiometer its action depends upon the convection currents set up by a source of heat in the gas surrounding the movable metallic vanes which are pivoted in the centre of the instrument. The latent heat of benzene has been carefully determined by Mr. E. H. Griffiths and Miss Marshall. They find that at a temperature of 80.2° C. this value equals 94.37 thermal units. Their work has been further extended by Miss Marshall and Professor Ramsay to the redetermination of a large number of specific heats of pure substances. The numbers obtained in these researches differ in some cases by large amounts from those found by other experimenters. The new results are, however, probably the more accurate.

During the past year two noted physicists have passed to their rest. Sir William Grove will long remain famous, not only for his well-known platinum-carbon battery, but for his theoretically interesting gas battery and for his work on the correlation of the physical forces. To Armand Fizeau we owe the determination of the velocity of light by an experimental method of a high degree of accuracy.

The industrial applications of electricity receive each year a further development. Rapid alternating currents have been employed for the destruction or weakening of toxic bacterial products in sewage. Electric currents passed through a bath used for hardening steel tools are reported to materially increase the hardness of the metal. The process is said to

be applicable to all steel cutting instruments, and not to materially increase the brittleness. Electric traction, chiefly by the use of overhead wires, has been making steady progress in this country, and the power derived from the Falls of Niagara is now in daily use at Buffalo, twenty-five miles away.

BIOLOGY.

The death of Du Bois Reymond in the last week of the year, at the age of seventy-eight, removes from the scene one who may almost be considered the founder of electric physiology. The intimate connection between muscular movement and electrical currents, which he was the first to systematically examine, lies at the base of all future work on muscle and nerve excitation. His work is still bearing fruit in recent researches. Thus Dr. Augustus Waller has shown that when a nerve conveys currents sufficiently powerful to produce tetanus the nerve itself evolves carbonic acid. Dr. Waller has also shown that carbonic acid acts on the heart like an inhibitory poison, and that in any experiments on the action of currents on nerves the effect of temperature requires consideration. The functional relationship between the cerebellum and the cerebral and spinal centres has been studied by Dr. Russell of the National Epileptic Hospital, and the generalisations of Dr. Gaskell as to the distribution and difference of function in the white and grey filaments of the nerves passing from the spinal cord to the sympathetic system have been confirmed by the researches of Drs. Langley and Anderson in their study of the innervation of the viscera. The rhythmic contractility of the spleen has been confirmed by Schäfer and Moore, who have also succeeded in showing that this contractility is an inherent property of the organ and not produced merely by external stimuli. H. Beauregard and E. Dupuy find that a sound striking the drum of the ear sets up a current in the auditory nerve. The nerve is, however, easily fatigued, and ceases to react to sound stimulus on death. The sensitiveness of the terminal nerves of the skin to sensations of heat or cold has been studied by Dr. C. Henry. He finds that this sensitiveness is at a maximum between 10° and 20° C., thus confirming the view already advanced by Fechner. Above or below these temperatures the perception of heat differences becomes less acute. Professor M'Kendrick has continued his use of the phonograph in his research into the connection between nerve stimuli and sound waves. He uses for this purpose a constant current which passes through a resistance so arranged as to be readily variable. On this resistance apparatus the sound waves from the phonograph are made to fall. The consequent alteration of the current reproduces, if it is of sufficient strength to be perceptible by the muscles, a rhythm in accord with the original note or notes of the phonograph. The part played by carbohydrates in the body is still being investigated by Dr. Pavy, and year by year he is accumulating evidence which bids fair to overthrow entirely the current glycogenic theory. Thus dextrose in the blood appears to be not merely not beneficial, but to act as a protoplasmic poison, the intensity of which depends upon its abundance. If this is true, then it follows on Dr.

Pavy's hypothesis that before carbohydrates can be utilised as sources of protoplasmic nourishment they must be built up or combined with or into proteid compounds. This would seem to show that nitrogen and not carbon was the pivot on which the processes of nutrition rest, and that the old distinction between carbohydrates and proteids as respective sources of heat and muscle energy is utterly at variance with facts. The action of various drugs on the muscular substance of the heart has been studied by Mr. Pickering. He uses for this purpose the embryonic hearts of birds and mammals, in which the effect is not complicated by the action of the heart as a complex organ. Chloroform was by this means found to act as a cardiac depressant and ether as a stimulant unless in very large doses. A mixture of alcohol, ether and chloroform was less depressant than either chloroform alone or than a mixture of chloroform and ether.

The success of the antitoxic treatment of diphtheria has rendered recent researches on similar toxins of the greatest interest. It would appear that there is every probability that a similar method may be of value in cases of snake bite. Dr. A. Calmette of the Pasteur Institute at Lille has obtained from the blood of an animal rendered immune by repeated and increased injections of snake poison a serum which can be used as an antitoxin for snake bite. This serum has been tried with success by Mr. Hankin, of Agra, on cattle bitten by snakes. The announcement of another antitoxin has also been made by Dr. Yersin. In this case the remedy is intended to prevent or cure the bubonic plague which is still raging in India. The bacterial character of this disease has been clearly made out, and the conditions favouring its development defined. It is remarkable as showing how much importance should be attached to hygienic conditions of life, that while at Bombay the natives, whether Hindoos or Mahomedans, have been dying by thousands, the European population has been almost entirely exempt.

Dr. A. M. Bleile, who has been studying cases of death from electricity, has come to the opinion that the current causes a contraction of the arteries of so forcible a nature as to produce an enormously sudden increase of the blood pressure, thus stopping the action of the heart. Thus if atropine, which relaxes the arterial walls, be given to a rabbit, the strength of the current required to produce death must be materially increased.

In Botany Mr. Wager has shown that the fertilisation processes in mosses and cryptogams are identical with those which occur in the higher plants or in animals. One general law of development runs through all nature, so far as separate sexual characters are observable. The value of the Röntgen rays as a research instrument has been shown by some photographs taken at the University Extension College, Reading. It is thus possible to show the position of the ovules inside the ovary of an unopened bud, to distinguish the seed inside the seed vessels, or to record the minute veins on the petal of a white flower. The researches of Hellriegel, Nothe and others on the nitrifying organisms in the soil have been developed into an industrial application, and a German firm now undertake to supply ten varieties of the more important of these organisms in a form in which they can be used to

“seed ” a sterile soil, or one of which the fertility or assimilating power is deficient. Experiments have also been carried out on the influence of the electric light on vegetation, and on the action of continuous current in arresting or promoting growth. It would appear from the experiments of M. Flammarion that plants grow taller under red glass than under blue, green or clear glass, and M. Gautier finds that while red light is beneficial to the plant, green light is positively injurious. In conclusion attention should be drawn to the experimental stations for agriculture and biology, which are now maintained by several more enlightened County Councils. Excellent work has already been done in this direction, notably at the Essex experimental station. The results obtained cannot fail to be of interest to farmers for their practical and to biologists for their scientific value.

ART, DRAMA, AND MUSIC.

I. ART.

THE most important events in the history of art in England during the year were the loss of two Presidents of the Royal Academy at an interval of eight months and the opening of the majority of the public galleries and museums on Sunday afternoons throughout the summer. The privilege thus tardily accorded to an oft-reiterated demand was fairly appreciated; but the summer limit to which the Sunday opening was restricted was a disappointment to those who desired to see the museums and galleries frequented during the winter afternoons and evenings. The choice of Mr. E. J. Poynter, R.A., for the Presidency of the Royal Academy by a bare majority of the votes of the Academicians was acquiesced in by the public, but stimulated no sort of enthusiasm in any quarter. His qualifications as a painter, a teacher and a speaker were probably not inferior to those of other competitors, but his election was regarded as evidence that there was no artist of sufficiently imposing superiority to overcome the jealousies which his nomination would arouse.

National Gallery.—The pictures purchased out of the parliamentary grant (5,000*l.*) were more important historically than from any other point of view. They comprised three specimens of the work of Francesco Goya—"The Picnic" and "The Bewitched," purchased together at the Duc d'Ossuna's sale (265*l.* 14*s.*), and a portrait of Doña Isabel Corbo, purchased in Madrid (405*l.*). A small work, "Jupiter and Semele," by Andrea Schiavone, was purchased at Lord Leighton's sale (42*l.*), and a symbolic representation of the Crucifixion by Giovanni Mansueti—a little-known artist of the early Venetian school—was also bought in London (435*l.* 15*s.*). By the "Lewis Fund," "A Scene on the Ice," by H. Averscamp (90*l.*), and a portrait of Gilbert Stuart, the American artist, by himself (150*l.*), were the only acquisitions. The bequests to the National Gallery included: "The Crucifixion," by Spinello Aretino, from Rev. J. H. Ash; "The Calm," by Charles Brooking, from Rev. R. G. Maul; "The Moorland," by J. W. Inchbold, from Sir J. Russell Reynolds; three sketches by W. F. Witherington, and several miniature and pastel portraits from Miss Julia Gordon. The gifts were of greater importance, including "Still Life," by W. K. Heda, from Mr. H. F. Pfungst; "A Battle Scene," by Jacob Weier, from Sir A. W. Franks; "The Philosopher," by C. Bega, from Mr. M. Colnaghi; "Dredging in the Medway," by W. J. Müller, from Mr. H. Gaskell; six pictures by Gainsborough—including a portrait of his daughter; and his own portrait by Zoffany—from the Misses Lane.

The most noteworthy incident of the year in connection with the gallery was the adoption by the trustees of the resolution of the House of Commons recommending the opening on Sunday afternoons of the public picture galleries and museums of the metropolis. Although this privilege was restricted to that season of the year in which out-door relaxation was more in vogue, 29,607 persons visited the National Gallery on the twenty Sunday afternoons on which it was opened.

National Portrait Gallery.—The flow of valuable and historically interesting portraits which marked the appointment of the new director, Mr. Lionel Cust, continued unabated. The Watts gift of seventeen portraits of the artist's most distinguished contemporaries was exhibited to the public, and at subsequent dates further donations were announced. These included William Gifford (John Hoppner, R.A.), presented by Mr. F. T. Palgrave; Charles and Mary Lamb (F. S. Cary), by Mr. E. R. Hughes; Rob. Pollard (R. Samuel), by Mr. T. H. Ward; Ford Madox Brown (D. G. Rossetti); Viscount Palmerston (John Partridge); King William III. (Jan Wyck); R. L. B. Stevenson, the novelist (W. B. Richmond, R.A.), by the artist; Lord Leighton, P.R.A. (G. F. Watts, R.A.), by the artist, and many others. Amongst the more interesting bequests were portraits of Mrs. Delaney (J. Opie, R.A.), by Lady Llanover; Right Hon. Spencer Perceval (G. F. Jacob, A.R.A.), by Miss A. J. Perceval; Rev. F. D. Maurice (S. Laurence), by Mrs. F. D. Maurice; and Rev. John Keble (G. Richmond, R.A.), by the artist.

With the modest sum (750*l.*) placed at his disposal the director was able to make several interesting purchases; but naturally portraits by distinguished or fashionable painters could not be competed for in the open market. The largest lump sum expended was 100*l.* for a collection of interesting drawings by the late George Richmond, R.A., whose intimacy with persons of distinction during his long life made the sketch-portraits extremely interesting. Portraits of Sir Thomas Wyatt (63*l.*), poet and statesman; of Samuel Richardson (52*l.* 10*s.*), the novelist, by J. Highmore; of the Earl of Chatham (125*l.*), by W. Hoare, of Bath; anonymous portraits of Lord Byron (52*l.* 10*s.*), and Wentworth, Earl of Strafford (30*l.*), and a group of men of science in 1807-8 (40*l.*), were among the most interesting purchases of the year.

The formal opening of the new galleries in April revived public interest in this branch of art, and although the new galleries, built at the expense of a private gentleman—Mr. Alexander—on a site grudgingly given by the Government, were not adapted for showing the portraits to their full advantage, the arrangements made by the new director were recognised by the greatly increased interest and attendance of the public on week days and Sundays.

The British Museum.—The amount usually set apart for purchases (50,000*l.*) was this year reduced to less than one half of that sum in consequence of the special votes obtained in the previous year of 25,000*l.* for the purchase of the Poltalloch drawings and engravings, and of 3,000*l.* for the Nelson papers. The most important acquisitions were of antiquities, amongst which figured Babylonian and Assyrian tablets (2,578*l.*), Egyptian antiquities (1,660*l.*), Greek and Roman (1,425*l.*), British and mediæval (1,225*l.*). The dispersal of the great collections of coins

enabled the Museum authorities to make several important purchases, as the sums spent at the respective sales showed: Montague (7,000*l.*) and Bunbury (1,093*l.*). The "Juxon" medal, which had realised at the Montague sale over 750*l.*, was surrendered to the British Museum by the purchaser for 600*l.* Manuscripts were purchased to the value of 1,850*l.*; drawings by Lord Leighton (450*l.*); prints, etc. (365*l.*); Wellington letters (675*l.*); but the only printed book of importance was "The World's Columbian Exposition," which cost upwards of 100*l.* For the excavations at Enkouri a small sum was set apart (165*l.*), and various sums were expended on fossils, especially on fossil plants (1,100*l.*) and zoological specimens (725*l.*).

The opening of the museum on Sundays scarcely responded to the anticipations of those who had urged this concession, and a similar disappointment had attended the opening of the galleries on the evenings of week days.

South Kensington Museum.—Here, as elsewhere, the Government wielded the pruning knife with unsparing hand. The grants for the art collections were reduced by nearly 5,000*l.* for the year. There were doubtless many good reasons for the economy. On the one hand, the price of really important works of art had enormously increased, whilst the supply was greatly reduced. Moreover, since the fashion for collecting has become more general there was little danger of valuable art objects being lost or destroyed, and the South Kensington Museum, like other national institutions, could look confidently to its treasures being increased from time to time by private benefactions.

The authorities, moreover, devoted considerable sums to reproductions, not only of statues and mouldings, but also of complete rooms, with their decorations, illustrative of Italian art at its best period.

Although the purchases of the year contained nothing so important as the specimens of French wood and iron work from the Peyre collection, which had cost 10,000*l.*, the following works of art were added. The principal acquisition during the year was a Flemish virginal of the second half of the sixteenth century, bought in France for 793*l.* 10*s.*; it bears the arms of William, Duke of Guelderland, Cleves, Berg, and Jülich, Count of Marck and Rosenberg. An Italian rock-crystal flask of the sixteenth century, mounted with silver-gilt, was bought for 330*l.* 15*s.* at the sale of the Earl of Warwick's collection. A terra-cotta bust of Savonarola, by the Florentine Bastianini, had been on loan for some time, and was acquired by the museum this year for 328*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* A carved wood bedstead and some specimens of stained glass from Sizergh Castle, Westmorland, were bought for the sum of 400*l.*; the panelling of the room to which the bedstead belonged had been acquired by the museum five years before. A Flemish tapestry of the sixteenth century was bought for 595*l.* Amongst the other purchases may be mentioned an Italian tortoiseshell casket, with gilt metal mounts, bought for 200*l.*; a Flemish walnut-wood group of the "Death of the Virgin," dating from the latter part of the fifteenth century, for 125*l.*; a collection of drawings of the treasures in the Emperor of China's state wardrobe for 100*l.*; a MS. copy of the "Ain-i-Akbari," by

Abul Fazl, Mogul work of the end of the sixteenth century, for 100*l.* Amongst the paintings and drawings may be mentioned the following: "Merlin and Nimuë," by Sir E. Burne-Jones, Bart. (800*l.*); "Chepstow Castle," by David Cox (100*l.*); "Domo D'Ossola, Piedmont," by Samuel Prout (110*l.*); a collection of drawings by the late Lord Leighton, P.R.A. (135*l.* 18*s.*).

The Royal Academy.—For the first time since its establishment in 1768 the Royal Academy suffered the loss of two successive presidents in the same year—Lord Leighton and Sir J. E. Millais—each in his respective line the most conspicuous painter of his time. Sir John Millais, who had been unanimously chosen to succeed Lord Leighton, occupied the post of president scarcely six months. On his death, Mr. E. J. Poynter was elected by a bare majority, Mr. Briton Riviere, R.A., dividing with him the votes of the Royal Academicians. In the course of the year Messrs. G. H. Boughton and E. Crofts (painters) and Mr. T. G. Jackson (architect) were promoted from the rank of Associates, and the painters' vacancies filled by Mr. S. J. Solomon and Mr. E. Abbey. Two retired Royal Academicians, Mr. G. Richmond and Mr. Armitage, died during the year.

At the winter exhibition the chief feature was the substitution of French for Dutch cabinet pictures in the room usually set apart for the latter, Watteau, Pater, Fragonard, Lebrun, Rousseau, Delaroche, and others being fairly represented. A collection of ecclesiastical, collegiate and corporation plate, illustrative of the goldsmith's art, was also included in the exhibition.

At the summer exhibition Lord Leighton's unfinished "Clytie" was given the place of honour. Sir John Millais was represented by four portraits, that of the Marchioness of Tweeddale being the most admired. He had also a single figure study "A Forerunner," an ideal treatment of St. John the Baptist. The purchases under the Chantrey bequest included: Mr. H. H. La Thangue's "The Man with a Scythe" (500*l.*); Mr. T. C. Gotch's "Alleluia" (900*l.*); Miss Mildred Butler's "The Morning Bath," water-colour (50*l.*); and two bronze sculptures, "A Boy at Play," by W. G. John (500*l.*), and "Griselda," by A. Dury (70*l.*).

Among the other more important pictures of the exhibition were: Mr. E. A. Abbey's "Richard, Duke of Gloucester, and the Lady Anne"; Mr. G. A. Clausen's "Haybarn"; Mr. A. S. Cope's portrait of Sir Henry Fowler; Mr. L. Fildes' portrait of Mr. Treves, the eminent surgeon; Mr. Solomon's "Birth of Love"; Mr. J. M. Swan's "The Syrens"; Mr. Draper's "The Vintage Morn"; and Mr. Stanhope Forbes' portraits of the Messrs. Bolitho.

At the New Gallery, in addition to the annual exhibition of works by living artists, a magnificent loan collection of Spanish pictures and works of art was brought together. At the Grafton Galleries Mr. Staats Forbes' collection of modern French pictures was exhibited, and the Society of Portrait Painters and the Society of Miniaturists made their annual displays. The two Water-colour Societies—the British Artists' and the New English Art Club—as usual held their summer and winter exhibitions.

The art sales of the year were of less than usual importance—only

that of the pictures collected by Sir Julian Goldsmid, which realised 67,342*l.*, being specially noteworthy. Lord Leighton's pictures—which were sold under specially favourable conditions—brought 25,000*l.*; those of Mr. J. Hargreaves, 12,870*l.*; of Mr. A. Seymour, 11,246*l.*; of W. Angerstein, 8,935*l.*; of Mr. C. H. T. Hawkins, old pictures, 6,951*l.*; modern, 4,896*l.*, and drawings, 3,657*l.*

The highest prices paid for single pictures were for Romney's "Lady Clifden and Lady Elizabeth Spencer" (Clifden), 11,025*l.*; for Reynolds' "Mary Monckton" (Goldsmid), 7,875*l.*; for Gainsborough's "Lady Eden" (Goldsmid), 5,250*l.* The prices paid for other works by the same painters showed a similar change in public taste or fashion, Reynolds' "Lady Coventry" (Goldsmid) fetching 3,990*l.*; his "Mrs. Angerstein" (Angerstein), 1,627*l.*; and his "Duke of Rutland" (Goldsmid), 1,470*l.*; whilst Romney's "Mrs. Oliver" (Goldsmid) brought 3,255*l.*; his "Miss Harriet Shore" (Goldsmid), 2,877*l.*; his "Maria and Catherine Thurlow" (Seymour), 2,677*l.*; his "Lady Urith Shore" (Goldsmid), 2,100*l.*; and his "Mrs. Anne Bonar" (Thomson Bonar), 1,572*l.* Gainsborough's principal portraits offered for sale were: "Mr. and Mrs. Dehaney" (Goldsmid), sold for 2,255*l.*; "Samuel Whitbread" (Lord Eversley), 1,890*l.*; and "Lady Mary Bowlby," 1,522*l.*; but a fine landscape by him (Goldsmid) realised 3,255*l.*; a price only surpassed by J. M. W. Turner's "Rockets and Blue Lights" (Goldsmid), which fetched 3,885*l.*; "A Sea Piece" (Goldsmid), 2,152*l.*; and "Boats to Dutch Men-of-War" (Houldsworth), 1,627*l.* The companion picture to Gainsborough's "Samuel Whitbread" was that of his younger daughter Emma, who married Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, sometime Speaker of the House of Commons, and afterwards Viscount Eversley. Her portrait by Hoppner realised 1,890*l.*, and "The Hurdy-gurdy Player," by the same artist, 1,550*l.* Sir Thomas Lawrence's "Portrait of Mrs. Angerstein" sold for 2,957*l.*, and that of "Mrs. Locke" (Angerstein) for 1,417*l.*, while the portraits of "Two Boys," by Sir M. A. Shee, Lawrence's successor as President of the Royal Academy, fetched only 483*l.* The highest prices given for Lord Leighton's works were: "Perseus and Pegasus" (514*l.*); "Listening" (Goldsmid) (514*l.*); and "Candida" (462*l.*). As a rule the prices paid for pictures by foreign masters showed a considerable decline upon those of previous years, the highest prices being: "A Garden Scene," by Hondekoeter (Seymour), 1,365*l.*; "A Frozen Scene," by A. Van der Neer (Dean Paul), 1,228*l.*; "A Woody Landscape," by Hobbema, 1,102*l.*; "A Lady of Terburg" (Hawkins), 1,155*l.* On the other hand, four pictures by Corot, belonging to Lord Leighton, representing "Morning," "Noon," "Evening," and "Night," realised 6,300*l.*

Amongst the other sales of furniture, works of art, porcelain, books, etc., which deserve notice, the most important were those of the furniture, etc., of Sir E. J. Dean Paul (20,326*l.*), and his plate, stained glass, etc. (10,129*l.*); furniture, china, etc., of Sir Julian Goldsmid (34,385*l.*); of Sir Arthur Seymour (11,246*l.*); the snuff boxes of Mr. C. H. T. Hawkins (15,234*l.*); the pottery, etc., of Lord Leighton (6,982*l.*); and the Limoges enamels of Lord Warwick (6,440*l.*), whose drawings, etc., had fetched 7,850*l.*, and those of Mr. C. H. T. Hawkins, 3,657*l.*

No important libraries were broken up during the year, but those of Sir William Pole (4,343*l.*); John Tudor Frere (3,747*l.*); Adrian Hope

(3,550*l.*); Sir E. H. Bunbury (2,965*l.*); Lord Coleridge (2,845*l.*); Lord Bateman (2,650*l.*); and Lord Ashburton (1,870*l.*); and the manuscripts of Sir Thomas Phillipps (6,988*l.*) deserve mention. On the other hand, three important collections of coins were dispersed—those of Mr. S. Montague, Mr. W. Boyne, and Sir E. H. Bunbury. The first portion of Mr. Montague's coins, chiefly English, had been sold in the previous year and had realised 4,220*l.* His Greek coins now fetched 8,954*l.*, and the second part of the English coins 5,660*l.* The Boyne collection was also divided into two parts, realising 3,752*l.* and 2,772*l.* respectively, while the first part of Sir E. H. Bunbury's Greek coins alone realised 8,700*l.* The dispersal of the interesting collection of playing cards, got together in various parts of the world by Lady Charlotte Schreiber (776*l.*), enabled the British Museum to add very considerably to its collection, which, nevertheless, remained very incomplete.

II. DRAMA.

Those, perhaps the majority among us, who look for amusement at the play, will regard the year 1896 as a successful theatrical season. Those who look with more ambition for intellectual interest in the drama will probably regard it with disappointment and regret. One feature of the year has been the continued popularity of the variety entertainment—of the mixture of comedy, of music, of burlesque which has of late taken such hold upon the public. Another feature of the year has been the astonishing success achieved by pieces like "The Sign of the Cross," "Trilby" and "The Prisoner of Zenda," which can scarcely be regarded as anything better than third-rate or fourth-rate plays. Another feature still has been the absence of any satisfactory work from writers whom we have learned to regard as our leading dramatists. Mr. Pinero, incomparably the ablest among them, has been represented by no play at all. Mr. Jones has been represented only by two startling failures, which show how precarious a thing, even with experienced and popular writers, is dramatic success. "Michael and his Lost Angel," Mr. Jones' venture at the Lyceum, was generally condemned on grounds of taste, and though it might have been supposed that the public taste in these days was difficult to outrage, it was withdrawn with a suddenness which even its severest critics could hardly have expected. "The Rogue's Comedy," a satire on the recent mining boom, met with little better treatment, and it would appear that Mr. Jones' satire failed to interest the public he assailed. Mr. Grundy, again, has been scarcely more fortunate with the rather perverse and gloomy play, "The Greatest of These," which Mr. and Mrs. Kendal carried round the country; and Mr. Carton has only added a farcical comedy, "The White Elephant," to the successes he had previously achieved. Among actors and actresses there has been no new reputation of importance made. Mrs. Patrick Campbell, in an English version of "Magda," secured another personal success; but the play did not last long, and we do not know that it added greatly to the heroine's high reputation. Madame Sarah Bernhardt, however, took occasion this year once more to remind us how incom-

parably superior she still is to almost all rivals in her art. Among theatrical lessees there have been changes. Mr. Augustus Harris' death has deprived the stage of an enterprising and ambitious manager. Mr. Comyns Carr, after a gallant bid for fortune, has ceased to manage the Comedy, and Mr. Hawtrey has returned to his old quarters there. Mr. Willard has terminated his tenure of the Garrick Theatre. Mr. Cyril Maude and Mr. Harrison have taken and reopened the Haymarket in the most promising fashion. And across the road Mr. Tree is busily building himself another house, there to continue the triumphs already associated with his career.

In spite, however, of some unfavourable features, the history of the year can boast of a rather promising revival of Shakespearian classics and of dramas of a romantic kind. The "Romeo and Juliet" of Mr. Forbes Robertson and Mrs. Patrick Campbell has been succeeded by "Henry IV." at the Haymarket, by "As You Like It" at the St. James', and by "Cymbeline" and "Richard III." at the Lyceum. Mr. Tree's Falstaff was a surprising *tour de force*, revealing afresh that brilliant actor's wide ability and remarkable power of "making up." Sir Henry Irving's production of "Cymbeline," elaborately beautiful and interesting as it was, failed to hold the public attention for a very long period as an acting play, and most people were glad to see the famous actor take up a part which gave him wider scope. His Richard III. is distinguished by the dry, sardonic humour which shows him perhaps at his best, and it has the advantage of presenting the part in a rather different light from that which for some generations has obtained upon the stage. Miss Ellen Terry's Imogen and Mr. George Alexander's Orlando deserve special notice in the history of these revivals, and both performances secured for these popular favourites the applause which they can always command. On a lower level, but still on a level that is very high, stands Mr. Davidson's adaptation of M. Coppée's romantic play "Pour La Couronne," which Mr. Forbes Robertson produced with Mrs. Patrick Campbell in a minor part. Mr. Davidson gave to his version a literary flavour only too rare upon the English stage, and a fine and dignified play was the result. Beside these ambitious efforts we must name two very successful specimens of the romantic drama—successful, that is, from the long runs and crowded houses which they have enjoyed. The fashion of adapting popular novels, which for the moment seems to have enabled the adapter to elbow the legitimate dramatist off the stage, has resulted in the adaptation successively by Mr. Edward Rose of two brilliant novels by Mr. Stanley Weyman and Mr. Anthony Hope. "The Prisoner of Zenda," presented with great ingenuity by Mr. Alexander, who contrived in the course of the evening to play no less than three parts, was a curious mixture of melodrama and burlesque, and lost, we think, in the adaptation all the fineness and much of the charm of the original book. But the prettiness of the scenes and the adroitness of the story completely carried the production through, and achieved results no doubt highly satisfactory to all concerned. "Under the Red Robe," with which Mr. Cyril Maude and Mr. Harrison opened their tenure of the Haymarket Theatre in the autumn, lost less in adaptation and made a

better play. Both dramas have fulfilled their object of giving considerable pleasure to the public, and that perhaps is all that the public has any right to ask.

In comedy Mr. L. N. Parker, with the help of Mr. Murray Carson, has carried off the honours of the year, and we are glad to find two able and persevering dramatists at last rewarded with an unqualified success. "Rosemary" is an idyllic play, dealing with the period of the thirties, with a flavour of Dickens' early books about it—simple, vivacious and thoroughly wholesome in tone. Admirably acted by Mr. Charles Wyndham and his company, it soon secured the public favour and retained it through the year. In melodrama the success of the military pageant entitled "One of the Best," at the Adelphi, has been rivalled by that of an excellent adaptation from the French, called "Two Little Vagabonds," and written by Messrs. Sims and Shirley.

In farce Mr. Hawtrey and Mr. Arthur Bouchier have maintained their reputations with tolerable success. "Charley's Aunt" has at last ceased to figure on the posters, after an unexampled run of four years, which broke the record previously held by "Our Boys." "A Night Out" may be mentioned among the purely frivolous productions which have secured the longest runs, and "The White Silk Dress" has provided Mr. Arthur Roberts with another characteristic part. A series of comedies, eked out by songs and dances, have, however, eclipsed in favour all farces and comedies of the older style, and plays of which "The Geisha" is a very favourable specimen, and among which "The Gay Parisienne," "My Girl," "The New Barmaid," and "The Circus Girl" require notice for their lasting and successful runs, have again proved that a light and pretty variety entertainment is what the majority of theatre-goers prefer. In the other extreme, intellect without amusement has, this year as in previous years, found votaries of its own. Ibsen's play of "Little Eyolf" was produced by subscription by the same spirited people who have enabled others of the Norwegian "master's" plays to be seen here before. But the general verdict on the performance was that it was less successful than its predecessors, and it failed to hold the boards for very long. For the present the spirit of gaiety and of frivolity—the spirit which likes simplicity, romance, a pretty spectacle, a taking song, a graceful dance, a genuine buffoon—is in the ascendant on the London stage. Problems, character-study, originality and wit are at a momentary discount, and will be till the fashion changes and the wheel goes round again. But while a single year gives us four plays of Shakespeare, the public can hardly grumble at their fare; and while musical farce reigns in the ascendant, no manager who will stoop to produce it can honestly maintain, as they all love to, that theatres never pay.

III. MUSIC.

The musical year opened with the annual conference of the Incorporated Society of Musicians, held in Edinburgh, when the chairman, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, considered by Von Bülow as the founder of

the young Scottish School of Music, had the degree of Mus. Doc. conferred upon him by the University of Edinburgh, and he conducted a grand choral and orchestral concert at which certain of his own works were performed with great success. January was overshadowed by the death of that active and comprehensive labourer in the field of music, Sir Joseph Barnby; his post of conductor to the Royal Choral Society was taken till the end of the season by Sir Alexander Mackenzie, during which time was given Gounod's "Redemption" on Ash Wednesday, assisted by Miss Esther Palliser, Messrs. Bispham, Copeland, etc. Between the parts Sir Arthur Sullivan's "In Memoriam Overture" was played to a standing assembly. Berlioz's "Faust," and "Judas Maccabæus" were performed later in the spring. Mr. David Bispham, on January 7, gave the second of his series of concerts begun in 1895. English music of the modern school was represented: Shield, Dibden, Sterndale Bennet, the Brothers Bach, Goring Thomas and several living musicians. A quintet of novel character was performed, written by Walford Davies, teacher at the Royal College of Music, set to Browning's "Prospice." The quintet was played by Mr. Gompertz's quartet, with Mr. Bispham as vocalist. At the remaining concerts illustrations were given of the song writings of Hans Sommer Rimsley-Korsakow, and "Attente" by Camille Chevillard—one of the most promising composers of the French school. Later in the year Mr. Richard Gompertz's string quartet gave its sixth series of concerts at the Queen's Hall, specially notable for its production of a beautiful new Quartet in D minor (op. 64) by Professor Villiers Stanford, and a worthy rendering of Tschaiïkowsky's fine Quartet in E flat (op. 30). On February 5 the Chamber Concert given by the Royal College of Music was distinguished by a surprise—a deeply impressive four-part setting of Tennyson's "There Rolls the Deep," by an unknown composer, who proved later to be Dr. C. H. Parry. The "Eroica Symphony" was excellently performed; also the ballad of "Hervé Riel," set by Walford Davies, on the model of Stanford's "Revenge"—tuneful, vigorous, with clever descriptive writing.

The distinctive features of 1896 in the domain of music, in addition to the success of the grandopera, were the very marked encouragement given to native composers, both in London and in festival towns; the number of English works produced; and the appearance in London of the two famous French Orchestral Bands, conducted by M. Lamoureux and by M. Colonne. M. Lamoureux appeared after an absence of fifteen years, and gave three concerts in April, which he followed with a series of six in October. The playing of his orchestra was characterised by an admirable *ensemble*, delicate pianissimos, and refined phrasing of the word-wind. The first series was marked by the novelties—a symphonic poem, "Wallenstein's Camp," by Vincent d'Indy; the overture to Chabrier's "Gwendolen," and G. Charpentier's clever suite, "Impressions d'Italie." In the autumn the programme included such novelties as a "Ballade Symphonique," by Chevillard; "La Forêt Enchantée," by D'Indy, and other works by MM. Duboid, Bourgault-Ducoudray, Rimski-Korsa, Koff, and Borodine. M. Colonne, with his 103 instrumentalists, gave among other things a remarkable

rendering of Berlioz's "Symphonie Fantastique," excerpts from Saint Saëns' "Samson et Dalila," aided by Mrs. Katherine Fisk; and the "Sérénade Illyrienne" and "Aubade" from Widor's incidental music to Dorchain's comedy, "Conte d'Avril."

The operatic year opened with a four-weeks' season given by the Royal Carl Rosa Company, beginning upon January 20, with "Tannhäuser," conducted by Mr. Richard Eckhold, admirably assisted by Miss Ella Russel and Mr. Hedmond. Other operas given were "Carmen," "Lohengrin," "Mignon"; and, for the first time in London, Mr. Hamish MacCunn's "Jeanie Deans," very cordially received and excellently performed (Mme. Duma as Jeanie). Among the artistes who distinguished themselves were Mdle. Zélie de Lussan and Mr. Barton McGuckin. The opera in English reinaugurated by Sir Augustus Harris has more than established its claims to respect. The season at Daly's Theatre under the conducting of Mr. Mancinelli was a gratifying success. There were performances of "Faust," "Tannhäuser," "Lohengrin," "Cavalleria," "Hansel and Gretel," "Carmen," "Maritana," and "The Bohemian Girl." Among the singers were Mesdames Moody, Duma, Lilian Tree, Pauline Joran, Messrs. Bispham, Copeland, Hedmonds, Manners (a promising baritone), Wilson Sheffield, etc. Owing to the acumen and energy of Sir Augustus Harris, the grand opera in London had reached a high point of prosperity and excellence, and it is to be feared that the death of the great *impresario* will prove a very serious check to its future development. He did not live to see the greatest achievement of his managership, the splendid performance of "Tristram and Isolde," with the original German book, and the titular parts taken by Jean de Reszke and Mme. Albani. No novelties were introduced during the season, which was carried to an end as originally planned. "Lohengrin" was given in German; "Die Meistersinger" finely rendered in Italian, when Edouard de Reszke as Hans Sachs and David Bispham as Beckmeyer distinguished themselves. The performances in French of "Die Walküre" and "Tannhäuser" were fiascoes. Old-established favourites were given, such as Gounod's "Roméo et Juliet," "Martha," and "La Favorita," for the benefit of Mme. Mantelli. During the season Mme. Melba, Emma Eames, and Miss Mackintyre sang; also Messrs. Bispham, Aremondi, and Plançon. In consequence of the death of Sir A. Harris, there was no autumnal operatic season.

The pupils of the Royal College of Music gave a very fine performance of Verdi's "Falstaff," in the Lyceum Theatre, led by Professor Stanford; "Esmeralda" was revived by the students of the Guildhall School; and the Sisters Ravogli gave in a private house one rendering of Mascagni's new opera "Zanetto," a decalogue based upon François Coppée's "Le Passant."

The year was memorable also for the production of Professor Villiers Stanford's "Shamus O'Brien," a romantic comic opera, of high quality and strongly national in type, which was received with warm and intelligent applause. Messrs. Denis O'Sullivan and Joseph O'Mara gave very sympathetic interpretations of their parts. Mr. Walter Macfarren conducted his new overture to "Othello," a semi-realistic piece, at the

performance on February 15 of the Stock Exchange Orchestral Society. The latest of the series of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas, "The Grand Duke," had a fair success at the Savoy ; whereafter the "Mikado" was revived. The light opera "Geisha," closely modelled upon the "Mikado," held Daly's Theatre beyond the close of the year.

The various Choral Societies and autumnal Festivals celebrated the jubilee of Mendelssohn's "Elijah," first produced at the Birmingham Festival in 1846, a memorable year in the annals of music in England. On May 22, this year, "Elijah" was given by the Royal Choral Society in the Albert Hall ; for which society in October Professor Bridge accepted the post of permanent conductor. On March 25 the Bach Choir played and sang a "Requiem," by Alfred Bruneau ; it is the first time that a French work of important design (if crude in execution) has been produced first of all in London. The performance of Bach's "Passion Music," according to St. Jounn, was successfully achieved under Professor Stanford. In the summer season Emmanuele d'Astorga's "Stabat Mater" was given, and Dr. Hubert Parry conducted a first performance in London of his very attractive cantata "The Lotus Eaters." The main interest connected with the Queen's Hall Choral Society, whose fine work under Mr. Randegger entitles it to rank among the first in the metropolis, was the rendering of Saint Saëns' setting of the 19th Psalm ; on March 26 the tenth year of Sullivan's "Golden Legend" was celebrated with the aid of Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. Watkin Mills, Miss Thudichum, and Mrs. Katherine Fisk ; and on March 6 Signor Franco Leone's melodious "Sardanapalus" (libretto by William Akerman) was satisfactorily introduced.

The various permanent Orchestral Societies in London have done much good work during the year and have introduced several important novelties. The eighty-fourth season of the Philharmonic Society consisted of seven concerts. The novelties were "Symphony in B minor" (classic in form, Slavonic in theme), by the Russian Alexander Borodine, a professor of chemistry and medicine, who produced two works only ; Dvorák's "Concerto in B minor," for violoncello (Mr. Leo Stern) and orchestra, introduced by the composer ; a new suite, "In Fairyland," whimsical, harmonious, written with fine but unobtrusive musicianship, by F. H. Cowen, who since the death of Sir Charles Hallé has been elected conductor of the Manchester Orchestral and Choral Societies and the Liverpool Philharmonic Society. Mr. Emil Sauer's playing of Beethoven's "E Flat Concerto" was hurt by a difference of pitch between piano and orchestra ; at the fourth concert Lizst's "Concerto in E flat" was most brilliantly played by Mr. Eugen d'Albert, who is here considered generally to have become foremost of the younger pianists.

The Saturday and Monday Popular Concerts retain their hold on the affection of Londoners. The novelties introduced during the season were Tschaiïkowsky's "Pianoforte Trio in A minor" (op. 50), dedicated to Nicholas Rubenstein ; it is the noblest chamber music by the deceased Russian, and was satisfactorily rendered by Lady Hallé, Messrs. Reisenauer and Piatti. A "New Sonata in A minor" (pianist, Miss Fanny Davis) by Signor Piatti—his finest and most vigorous com-

position—created a favourable impression ; Smentana's characteristic Czechish Quartet in E minor was played for a second time—this Bohemian composer begins to take hold of the British public ; a “ Sonata in E minor,” for piano and violin, by Robert Kahn, of Mannheim, was introduced, and a song cycle, “ In a Persian Garden,” composed by Miss Liza Lehmann, and considered by one critic to be the highest achievement of any woman composer. Among other artistes who contributed to the success of the concerts were Dr. Joachim, Messrs. Eugen d'Albert, Leonard Borwick, Emil Sauer, Isidor Cohn, the Misses Ilona Eibenschutz, who introduced three new pianoforte pieces—“ Siciliana ” by Leschetizky, a “ Serenade ” by Olsen, an “ Æolus ” by Gernschein ; the singers being Miss Boye, Messrs. R. Green, Kennerley Rumford, William Nichol, etc.

At the London Symphony Concerts Mr. Henschel continued his illustration of Beethoven's development, assisted by Mrs. Henschel and Messrs. Borwick Arbos and Paul Ludwig ; and Maurice Sons, who distinguished himself in the fine Violin Concerts. A new and successful series was started in March, under the title of Henschel Concerts, and signalled by the performance of the conductor's high-class “ Stabat Mater ” ; Smentana's vigorous symphonic poem, “ Richard III.” ; Dvorák's “ Te Deum,” and a portion of his “ Golden Spinning Wheel,” and the Prelude and Entr'acte from Goldsmark's new opera, “ The Cricket on the Hearth.” The Crystal Palace Concerts, which must regretfully be curtailed after 1896, were ably conducted, as usual, by Mr. Manns. The events of the season were the brilliant playing of Mr. Willy Burmester ; the performance for the first time of Eugen d'Albert's prelude to the opera “ Der Rubin ” ; Christian Sinding's new “ Symphony in D minor,” bold and broad in outline ; Mr. Barclay Jones' new “ Symphonie in C minor,” a clever promising composition ; a “ Symphonic Prelude ” on Goethe's “ Ambors oder Hammer,” from the vigorous pen of Mr. William Wallace ; Mr. Herbert's very remarkable “ Village Suite,” in four movements, in which he shows himself to be an able contrapuntist ; F. H. Cowen's cantata, “ Transfiguration,” to the words of Joseph Bennett, full of energy and feeling, was conducted by the composer ; Miss Marie Brema gave a remarkable rendering of Purcell's extraordinary scena, “ Mad Bess,” scored for the orchestra by Dr. V. Stanford ; and Mdlle. Chaminade played her picturesque new Suite “ Callirhoë.” A sensation was created by the production of Richard Strass' “ Til Eulenspiegel's Lustige Streiche,” declared by Mr. Manns to be the most difficult work he had ever undertaken to produce. The wit of this strange composition was easier to grasp when, later in the year, it was again performed at the Richter Concerts, which enjoyed an excellent season. Among other things were given the Prelude and Entr'acte from Goldsmark's new opera “ The Cricket on the Hearth ” ; Dvorák's “ New World Symphony,” heard for the first time in London. At the end of the first series Dr. Richter received quite an ovation. The concerts recommenced on October 20, when Dvorák's piquant “ Scherzo Capriccioso ” was performed.

The Mottl Concerts were a continued success, and were devoted

to Wagner, as a preparation for Bayreuth ; a new pianoforte "Trio"—well written, melodious—by Mr. A. Davidson Arnott, was produced by the Musical Artists' Society ; three movements from a "Symphony in A minor," by S. Coleridge Taylor, distinctly individual and full of good workmanship, was produced by the Royal College of Music on April 6.

The Kneisel String Quartet from Boston, U.S., delighted its hearers with its perfect *ensemble* and fine instruments ; and the Monte Carlo Orchestra devoted itself during the summer at the Imperial Institute to the music of foreign nationalities.

Single Concerts and Recitals to be noted were the Chamber Concerts at the Queen's Hall (small) by Mr. George A. Clinton, the well-known clarinettist ; Mr. Henschel's Memorial Concert to Loewe, the German ballad-writer. Foremost among Pianoforte Recitals must be quoted those of M. Eugen d'Albert, who had not appeared in England since his boyhood, whose playing was characterised by wonderful breadth of style and dignity of interpretation ; of Mr. Mark Hambourg, who had developed from a prodigy into an artist of high calibre ; those of M. Emil Sauer, of Mr. Sappellnikof, and of Mdlle. Clothilde Keebery, one of the most distinguished of contemporary French pianists. Violin Recitals by Mr. Willy Burmeister, assisted by Mr. Ernest Hutcheson ; Signor Sarasate and M. Tsaye, the eminent Belgian ; Herr Pecsikai, a Hungarian, with methods similar to those of Dr. Joachim.

Vocal Recitals of interest, in addition to those already quoted, are those of Messrs. Plunket Greene and Leonard Borwick, of Miss Rosa Leo, of Mr. Walter Ford and Signor Aramis, of Mdlle. Camille Landi. At the end of the year Mr. Bispham gave a farewell concert before leaving for America, at which was given for the first time in London, Brahms's recently composed cycle of four "Serious Songs" (op. 121), nobly conceived, beautiful lyrics.

There were numerous autumn Festivals in England and in Wales. At the meeting of the Three Choirs in Worcester Cathedral Mr. Edward Elgar's short oratorio, "The Light of Life," made a good impression. Mr. Elgar proved himself a musician of great ability, and at the North Staffordshire Festival was performed his "Scenes from the Saga of King Olaf," finely scored and full of rich device. Mr. Elgar conducted, and was assisted by Mme. Henson, Messrs. Edward Lloyd and Ffranycon Davies. Of the eminently artistic Hovingham Festival Mr. Arthur Somervell's "Elegy" was the main feature. At the Norwich Festival the novelties introduced with conspicuous success were Mr. Cliffe's Violin Concerto, Signor Mancinelli's operatic cantata, "Ero e Leandro," and Dr. Stanford's characteristic setting of Le Fanu's rollicking ballad, "Phandrig Crohoore." The united musical forces at Bristol worked under a new conductor, Mr. George Riseley ; during the festival Fraulein Malten sang in several extracts from Wagner. Ample encouragement was given to native composers, and compositions were rendered of Dr. Parry, Messrs. Macfarren, German, MacCunn, Prout and Somervell.

During the autumn and early winter the Promenade Concerts were given daily at the Queen's Hall, and, under the able conductorship of

Mr. H. J. Wood, have become a valuable musical institution. Monday was devoted to Wagner and Liszt, Tuesday to Sullivan and French music, Wednesday to classical, Friday to Beethoven, while Thursday and Saturday were "popular nights." Mr. Wood was well assisted by Mesdames Belle Cole, Isabel Macdougall, Clara Samuel, Fanny Moody, and Messrs. Ben. Davis, Hirwen Jones, and for the violin Mr. A. Payne. Several novelties were introduced; three numbers from Moszkowski's ballad, "Laurin"; a "Fest March" by Cyril Kistler; a "Coronation March" for the occasion by Percy Pitt; a dainty minuet by Paderewski, delicately scored by Ernest Ford; Tchaikowsky's Suite (op. 71a) from "The Nutcracker," and Glazonnoff's "Scènes de Ballet."

The various Sunday Concerts continued their work throughout the year. The Orchestral Society, under Mr. Randegger, provided an attractive programme and performed, among many other things, German's "Gipsy Suite," and (for the first time in England) a sacred dance from Signor Mancinelli's "Ero e Leandro."

The death-roll for 1896 among musicians bore several eminent names, whose loss is deeply felt; notably Sir Joseph Barnby, Mme. Clara Schumann, Mr. Henry Leslie, Mr. Novello, M. Ambrose Thomas, Mr. Lewis Thomas (once a popular vocalist), and the German soprano Frau Klafsky.

OBITUARY

OF

EMINENT PERSONS DECEASED IN 1896.

JANUARY.

Lord Blackburn.—Colin Blackburn was the second son of Mr. John Blackburn, of Killearn, in the county of Stirling, by Rebecca, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Gillies, and was born in 1813. His elder brother, Mr. Peter Blackburn, was member of Parliament for his native county from 1859 to 1865 as a Conservative, and was for some time one of the Lords of the Treasury, having been previously, in 1847, a candidate for Edinburgh, when both he and Macaulay were defeated. Colin Blackburn was educated at Eton, whence he proceeded to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1835 as eighth wrangler, and was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in Michaelmas term, 1838. He established a reputation for legal learning by the publication, in 1845, of a book on "Sales," which held its own as the leading text-book for a quarter of a century. Mr. Blackburn spent several years of his life in law reporting, and in conjunction with Mr. Thomas Flower Ellis, the life-long friend of Macaulay, he was engaged in the preparation of Ellis and Blackburn's reports. The series was carried on for eight volumes, and was followed by the single volume of Ellis, Blackburn and Ellis, published in 1858.

In 1859, Lord Campbell, to the general surprise, appointed his fellow-countryman to a Puisne Judgeship in the Queen's Bench. At the time Mr. Blackburn was practically unknown to the public, and his appointment was disapproved of by the profession. In Lord Campbell's life an extract is given from his diary of July 3, 1859, in which he says: "I have already got into great disgrace by disposing of my judicial patronage on the principle

detur digniori." The opinion of Lord Campbell was amply borne out by the subsequent career of the Judge, and when, on the passing of the Appellate Jurisdiction Act, 1876, Blackburn was appointed, together with Lord Gordon, one of the Lords of Appeal in Ordinary, the approval of the profession was as emphatic as its disapproval of his original appointment.

His career as a Judge was identified with several exciting criminal trials. In 1863 he presided over the trial, at the Central Criminal Court, of Buncher and others who had been engaged in extensive forgeries of Bank of England notes. In 1865 he sentenced to death Ferdinand Kohl, a German, who had been convicted of the murder of a fellow-countryman, Fuhrkop, in the Plaistow marshes. At his own request the prisoner was tried by a mixed jury of foreigners and Englishmen. The most famous trial, however, in which he was engaged was the special commission, of which Mr. Justice Mellor was also a member, sent to Manchester for the trial of the so-called "Manchester Martyrs." Allen, Larkin, Gould, Maguire, and Shore were charged with the attempted rescue of Colonel Kelly and Captain Deasy from the prison van, and with the murder of Sergeant James Brett on September 18, 1867. Twenty-six men in all were arraigned, and intense excitement prevailed. An outbreak and attempted rescue were feared, and a military force of nearly 2,000 men, together with a large body of armed police, was employed to guard the route from the gaol to the approaches of the court. The five men above-named were convicted, but in the event only three of them were hanged, Mr. Justice Black-

burn pronouncing sentence. Maguire received an unconditional pardon, and Shore was reprieved, not from any doubt of his having been concerned in the affair, but because he was unarmed when the attack was made on the van.

Mr. Justice Blackburn was also associated with another great historic trial. Mr. Eyre was Governor of Jamaica in October, 1865, and he was charged with acts of oppression and cruelty in the administration of his office, especially in the execution of Gordon, a ringleader among the rioters, and of Marshal, another rioter. Martial law was put into force in the island for a period of thirty days and the ordinary law superseded; and many severe punishments were inflicted on those who took part in the disturbances. Mr. Justice Blackburn had to decide in the Queen's Bench, early in 1868, whether an information by the Attorney-General or an indictment would lie against Mr. Eyre on account of these proceedings under the 11 and 12 William III., c. 12, and 42 George III., c. 85, by the provisions of which a governor of a colony, or other person in the public employment out of Great Britain, who has been guilty of any crime or misdemeanour in the exercise of his office may be prosecuted in the Court of King's Bench in England. Mr. Justice Blackburn held that the statutes were applicable, and that an indictment would lie. When the case came before the Grand Jury, in a dispassionate charge he reviewed all the circumstances, and pointed out the difficulties of the governor's position. He referred to the famous case of the Bristol riots, where the mayor was charged with want of energy in vindicating the law, and to the absence of a proper authority to control the execution of martial law in our colonies when it should unhappily become necessary to proclaim it. In the result the Grand Jury threw out the bill. Of the civil cases brought before him, one of the most interesting was connected with the name of Mr. Rigby Wason, in "*Wason v. Walter*," an action which arose from matter printed in the *Times*. The question arose out of a report of a debate in Parliament, and Mr. Wason, having failed in his attempt against the paper, sought a remedy against Lord Russell and other parliamentary personages. Mr. Justice Blackburn, in conjunction with Lord Chief Justice Cockburn and Mr. Justice Lush, on the application of the same gentle-

man, who made a charge against Earl Russell, Lord Chelmsford, and the Lord Chief Baron of conspiracy, also decided, on June 9, 1869, that members of either House of Parliament were not liable for civil or criminal proceedings for statements made in Parliament. A question of privilege of a different character was also settled by the late Judge in 1873 in the case of "*Dawkins v. Lord Rokeby*." He then held, and the Exchequer Chamber affirmed his ruling, that the privilege which exists with respect to statements made before one of the ordinary tribunals of the land also extends to a Court of Inquiry appointed by the Commander-in-Chief to investigate a complaint made by an officer in the Army; and the privilege is effectual even though the statements are not made in good faith.

After seventeen years' service in the Queen's Bench, Sir Colin Blackburn was, in October, 1876, created a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary under the act of 1876, with a life peerage. He took part in his new capacity in many important cases, both in the House of Lords and in the Privy Council, and seldom failed to make a valuable contribution to the judgments delivered.

Lord Blackburn retired in 1886. It was then found that, by a singular omission in the act of 1876, a retiring Lord of Appeal was no longer entitled to take part in the legislative business of the House, and another act was passed to enable him to do so. Lord Blackburn very rarely took part in the debates. He did, however, oppose one of Lord Galloway's motions with respect to the Mar peerage, and he also spoke in 1878 when a Matrimonial Causes Bill was before the House of Lords. He was never married, and died on January 8 at his residence, Doonholm, Alloway, Ayrshire.

Prince Henry of Battenberg, K.G.—Prince Henry Maurice of Battenberg was the third son of Prince Alexander of Hesse, who died in 1888, and hismorganatic wife, the beautiful Countess Julie von Hauke, to whom was granted in 1858 the title of Princess of Battenberg, which her children inherited. Born at Milan on October 5, 1858, Prince Henry received an education specially fitting him for military service, and in due time became a lieutenant in the 1st Regiment of Rhenish Hussars. Through their relationship to the Grand Dukes of Hesse, the sons of Prince Alexander were naturally brought into close contact with the Court of Queen

Victoria, and little surprise was felt when, after several visits to this country, during which the Prince had won general popularity and esteem amongst all who knew him, it was announced towards the close of 1884 that his engagement to the Princess Beatrice had been sanctioned by the Queen. The wedding took place on July 23 in the following year at the little church of Whippingham, in the Isle of Wight, the ceremony being performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and attended by a very large number of notable guests. The honeymoon was spent at Quarr-House, near Ryde, and at its conclusion Prince and Princess Henry settled down to their quiet life with the Queen, seldom being absent from the Court, whether at Windsor, Balmoral, or Cowes, and accompanying her Majesty on her annual visits to the continent.

A bill to confer upon Prince Henry "all the rights and privileges of a natural-born subject of her Majesty" was passed in the House of Lords on July 31, 1885, and on the same day his Royal Highness (for this title had now been conferred upon him) appeared at the bar of the House and had the oath of allegiance administered to him. The Prince was also made a Knight of the Garter and a member of the Privy Council, while he received the rank of a colonel in the Army, and more recently was appointed to be Captain-General and Governor of the Isle of Wight, and Governor of Carisbrooke Castle. In the island he was exceedingly popular, his kindly, courteous manner, and his tactful consideration, endearing him to all with whom he came into contact. He quickly adapted himself to English life, and, especially, to English country life. He was a capital shot, and able to hold his own in the deer-stalking expeditions around Balmoral; while he was also an enthusiastic yachtsman. Though he did not shrink from, he did not seek to take an active part in, public affairs, preferring to live quietly an unostentatious, and for the most part uneventful, life. Born of a family of soldiers, Prince Henry would have gladly embraced an active military career, and when it was announced that an Ashanti expedition was being organised he eagerly seized the opportunity of taking the field and volunteered to accompany it. Throughout the march from the coast Prince Henry distinguished himself by his willingness to share the fatigue and labours of his comrades, and was on several occasions

most usefully employed in negotiations with the native chiefs. The expedition had reached Prahsu, about thirty miles from Kumassi, when after an evening walk, the Prince was struck down by fever. He was promptly conveyed back to the coast, and rallied after the journey. He was embarked on board H.M.S. *Blonde* on January 17 in a very weak state, but at one moment seemed to regain strength. On the 19th a sudden change for the worse set in, and he passed peacefully away on the evening of January 20 off the coast of Sierra Leone.

Rev. William Rogers, M.A.—William Rogers, who occupied an almost unique position among the London clergy and in the Church of England, was the son of a London police magistrate, William Lorange Rogers, and was born November 24, 1819. Before he was eleven years old he was sent to Eton, and for four years was under the severe discipline of Dr. Keate. In 1836 he was an unsuccessful competitor for a Balliol Scholarship, but was admitted as a Commoner in the following year. Whilst at Eton he had rowed in the then annual race with Westminster, and on passing to Oxford he had a place in the University boat in 1840 in its fourth contest with Cambridge. After taking his degree he travelled abroad for some time, returning in 1842 to go through a course of theological training at Durham University. He was ordained in 1843, and licensed to a curacy at Fulham, where he found himself little in sympathy with his vicar. In 1845 he was appointed to the incumbency of St. Thomas's, Charterhouse, a parish of 10,000 inhabitants, and a stipend of 150*l.* per annum. Costermongery was the industry of the district, which was a sanctuary and city of refuge for every gang of thieves which the police rooted out of every other neighbourhood. Mr. Rogers threw himself passionately into the work demanded of him, and by force of character, simplicity and straightforwardness he brought about a wonderful change. Education was always in his eyes the only means of improvement. He began by establishing a school for street Arabs in a blacksmith's abandoned shed, and from this humble starting-point ended by covering the parish with a network of schools, which he supported by funds drawn from his friends and from public sources by his personal influence. In 1863 he was presented to the rectory of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, where he

found himself surrounded by Jews, Roman Catholics, and Quakers, with all of whom he established and maintained friendly relations, and not the least potent bond of union being the establishment of a local non-sectarian Visiting Society, to which all denominations contributed, and by which all profited.

It was, however, especially as an educational reformer that Mr. William Rogers made his mark, and left behind him a great reputation. In 1858 he had been appointed a member of a Royal Commission to inquire into popular education, and amongst his colleagues and assistants were some of the most enlightened and eager educationists of the day. The knowledge he then acquired was promptly turned to account by Mr. Rogers. He had practically solved the question of elementary education while at St. Thomas's. He now turned his attention to middle-class schools. He issued an appeal to the great city merchants, called them together at the Mansion House, and finally canvassed personally twenty of the most important, obtaining from each 1,000*l.*, and he was then able to open his middle-class schools in Bath Street, Aldersgate, in October, 1866, and in a short time 700 boys were receiving instruction. The space was found to be inadequate, and Mr. Rogers at once set about finding the money necessary for the new buildings in Cowper Street, which were finished about two years later, and have subsequently served as a model for middle-class schools for boys and girls throughout the kingdom. He was next associated in the reconstruction of Dulwich School and its allied charities, and succeeded, with the help of his fellow-governors, in rendering the former one of the most efficient in the neighbourhood of London. Mr. Rogers never desired promotion in the Church, which probably was never offered to him, as his views, religious as well as political, were strongly Liberal. He was appointed Chaplain to the Queen, 1857, and Prebendary of St. Paul's in 1862, as a tribute to his eminent services in the city of London to its poor and its wealthy dwellers, and more especially to that middle class for which he obtained the advantages of first-rate education. He died on January 19 at his rectory-house in Devonshire Square, Bishopsgate, sincerely regretted by men of every class and every shade of opinion.

Lord Leighton, P.R.A. — Frederick Leighton was born at Scarborough in

December, 1830, the son of Mr. Frederick Septimus Leighton by a daughter of Mr. G. A. Nash. His grandfather, Sir James B. Leighton, was physician to the Empress of Russia and chief of the Medical Department of the Imperial Navy. His father also was a physician, but, in consequence of his wife's ill-health, relinquished his practice and lived and travelled on the continent. Leighton's talent for drawing showed itself at a very early age, and was so far encouraged that when the family were in Paris, in 1839, he received a few lessons from the well-known George Lance. The next winter or two were spent in Rome, where the boy had drawing lessons from Filippo Meli. Then came visits to Dresden and Berlin, and more art teaching, and a longer stay for purposes of general education at Frankfurt-on-the-Main. It was at Florence, in the winter of 1846, that his father allowed him to make art his profession. Hiram Powers, the American sculptor, was at the time in Florence, and was consulted by Mr. Leighton. "Your son," said he, "may be as eminent as he pleases." "Shall I make him an artist?" asked the father. "No, nature has done it for you." The gifts of nature, however, were supplemented by a variety of good training at Paris, Frankfurt, and Brussels. At Brussels the young artist painted his first serious picture, "Cimabue Finding Giotto Drawing in the Fields." At Frankfurt he spent several years under the tuition of E. Steinle, Professor of Historical Painting in the Academy, "The Death of Brunellesco," an early work, belonging to this period. Three winters in Rome followed, in the course of which he painted his first great picture, "Cimabue and his Friends and Scholars at Florence Accompanying his Picture of the Madonna to the Church of Santa Maria Novella." This was in the Royal Academy of 1855, and was bought by the Queen. From that time Leighton never failed to secure admission to the exhibitions of the Academy. "The Triumph of Music" (1856), "The Fisherman and Siren" (1857), and "Romeo and Juliet" (1859), were the work of the next four years, spent mostly at Paris; "Paolo and Francesca" and "The Star of Bethlehem" (1864), in which year he was made an Associate of the Academy. Soon afterwards he made a long tour in Spain, and on his return settled in London in Holland Park Road.

The next ten years of Leighton's life saw his speedy promotion, in 1868, to the rank of full Academician, and the production of such notable works as "Venus Unrobing," "Dædalus and Icarus," "Electra," "Clytemnæstra," "The Eastern Slinger," and "Hercules Wrestling with Death for the Body of Alcestis" (1871), the two last-named being recognised as being his best works. In 1879 the death of Sir Francis Grant, the portrait-painter, deprived the Academy of its President, and the vacant office was bestowed on Leighton. The efficiency with which he performed the various and onerous duties of the post was generally admitted.

"The Daphnephoria" (1876), painted for Mr. Stewart Hodgson, has been accepted as an unsurpassed example of Leighton's pictures, but every year he exhibited at least one work which found its devoted admirers. Among such should be mentioned "Elisha Raising the Son of the Shunamite," "Phryne at Eleusis," "Antigone," "Cymon and Iphigenia," from *Boccaccio*; "The Last Watch of Hero," "Captive Andromache," a large and pathetic canvas; "The Bath of Psyche," "Perseus and Andromeda," "Hit," "Rizpah," "The Spirit of the Summit," and "Flaming June." These, of course, were all of them at the Academy. At the Grosvenor Gallery, besides some charming sketches of Damascus, the record of an Eastern tour, were a good many of his minor pictures, and some of his portraits.

So various was his activity that, besides his painting and his official and literary work in connection with the Academy, he found or made time for sculpture, for fresco-painting, for travelling, for society, for public speeches, and for volunteering. He was one of the earliest members of the Artists' Rifle Corps and subsequently its colonel, and he took a deep interest in its welfare and efficiency. On so popular a man honours fell quite naturally. His genius was recognised in this country by the Presidency of the Academy and a baronetcy, which latter honour was merged for little more than three weeks in the only peerage that has ever rewarded an English painter. The Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Edinburgh gave him the honorary degrees of D.C.L. and LL.D. In France he was a Knight of the Legion of Honour, and, in 1878, President of the International Jury of Painting at the Paris Exhibition.

For some months before his death Leighton had been in a critical state of health, but he never gave up painting, although he had found it impossible to deliver his biennial address to the Royal Academy students in December, 1895. It was hoped that with rest and care his life might be prolonged, but a sudden heart seizure on January 24 was fatal, and he died at his beautiful house in Holland Park Road, almost his last words being a message of goodwill to the Royal Academy.

Right Hon. H. Childers. — Hugh Culling Eardley Childers, son of the Rev. Eardley Childers, of Cantley, Yorkshire, was born in Brook Street in 1827, and was educated at Cheam School and at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated as a Senior Optime in the Mathematical Tripos of 1850. As soon as he had taken his degree he married Emily, third daughter of Mr. G. I. A. Walker, and immediately—in 1850—went to Australia and became a member of the Government of Victoria. His connection with Victoria as Commissioner of Trade and Customs, and as member for the constituency of Portland, in its first Legislative Assembly, lasted till the year 1857, when he returned to England as Agent-General for the colony. Two years later he contested the borough of Pontefract unsuccessfully; but, his opponent having been unseated by a Select Committee, he was returned to Parliament as a Liberal in February, 1860, and continued to represent Pontefract until his defeat in 1885. Early in the following year he found a seat as a Home Ruler in South Edinburgh, and was re-elected later in the same year at the general election. In 1892 he was no longer a candidate, but withdrew from Parliament and public life, in consequence of failing eyesight.

As a member of the House of Commons, Mr. Childers served in several important offices. In 1864 he became Civil Lord of the Admiralty; in 1865 he was Financial Secretary to the Treasury. In Mr. Gladstone's first Government, which was formed in December, 1868, Mr. Childers held, and held with credit, the post of First Lord of the Admiralty, for the first two years of the Ministry. The Navy Estimates of 1868 were, of course, those of his predecessor in office; but in presenting the Estimates of the following year, amounting to no more than 9,250,000*l.*, the lowest since

1858-59, Mr. Childers claimed to have effected a number of changes with a gain both in efficiency and economy. He had seated the Controller at the Board, giving him charge of the *matériel* of the Navy, had placed the *personnel* in charge of one of the Junior Lords, and had given to the Secretary control over the finances. Mr. Childers's period of office at the Admiralty was marked by two other great changes. He obtained an Order in Council which subordinated the positions of the other Lords, placing them for the first time in the position of assistants to, rather than colleagues of, the first Lord, a state of affairs which was not found to work well, and which has virtually ceased. In presenting his Estimates in 1870, Mr. Childers proposed a new and extensive scheme of retirement for officers, the effect of which, he said, would be to save the country some 350,000*l.* a year. The scheme eventually became law, but with results which are not altogether those predicted of it. Early in 1871 Mr. Childers was in ill-health. His resignation, announced on January 19, was contradicted at the time, but took effect six weeks later, and the Estimates of 1871 were introduced by his successor, Mr. Goschen.

In August, 1872, Mr. Childers returned to the Government, succeeding Lord Dufferin as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, an office involving light duties, his re-election for Pontefract being the first held under the Ballot Act. In this post Mr. Childers remained for a year, retiring in 1873, when the Government was remodelled.

When Mr. Gladstone was again Prime Minister, at the end of April, 1880, he was at first his own Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Childers being Secretary of State for War. During his brief tenure of this office Mr. Childers was not merely responsible for the arrangements for the Egyptian campaign of 1882, but he was intimately associated with some of the most important changes ever introduced into the organisation of the British Army. The scheme for constituting and naming the territorial regiments, and for renumbering the regimental districts, was, of course, an exceedingly laborious one, and, though it can hardly be said that the popularity of Mr. Childers with the Army was thereby increased, the changes brought about were a notable tribute to his unflagging industry and honest desire to pay all possible deference to regi-

mental feeling. In addition to being the first to actually territorialise the Army, Mr. Childers elaborated a scheme devised to avoid the compulsory retirement of officers in excessive numbers by bringing promotion within reach before the age-limit was attained.

At the end of 1882 Mr. Gladstone resigned the Exchequer and Mr. Childers became Chancellor. It was Mr. Childers's duty to make the Budget statements of 1883, 1884, and 1885, all of them years in which the financial circumstances of the country differed greatly. In 1883 there was a surplus of more than 2,500,000*l.*, which allowed the Chancellor to make provision for cheap telegrams, to reduce the railway passenger duty, and to reduce the income-tax from 6½*d.* to 5*d.* In 1884 he had no such opportunity of distinguishing himself, revenue and expenditure almost balancing with a surplus of something less than 250,000*l.* In 1885 there was ample scope for financial dexterity. The Vote of Credit of 11,000,000*l.* had to be provided for, as well as an ordinary deficit of 3,692,000*l.*, and the proposal of Mr. Childers was to meet the difficulty by increasing the income tax to 8*d.*, by altering the death duties, by increased spirit duty and beer tax, and by a suspension of the Sinking Fund. The result was fatal to the Government. The discussion on the Customs and Inland Revenue Bill had been postponed till after Whitsuntide, and on June 8 Sir M. Hicks-Beach carried, by a majority of 12, an amendment condemning the increase of the beer and spirit duties and the failure to give relief to local taxation. Mr. Childers's occupation of the post of Chancellor of the Exchequer was marked by the introduction of a two and three-quarters per cent. British Government Stock. The new type of security was created under the National Debt (Conversion of Stock) Act, 1884, in the hope that the holders of the existing three per cents. would be induced by the offer of a small bonus to exchange those securities for it. This attempt at conversion was a failure, only about 4,500,000*l.* of the new stock being created, but it paved the way, in some degree, for Mr. Goschen's successful conversion of the Debt in 1888. Mr. Childers also introduced and passed the National Debt Act, 1883, by which the large amount of Terminable Annuities which would have fallen in in 1885 were continued for a further term of years. He also suggested a

mode of providing a fund to meet the cost of withdrawing and recoinng light gold coins, by reducing the amount of gold in the half-sovereign and making that coin a "token," which was not favourably received.

The last office held by Mr. Childers was that of Home Secretary during Mr. Gladstone's short Ministry in 1886. His assumption of his new duties was unluckily signalised by the Trafalgar Square riots and the plundering of shops by the mob, which took place within a few hours of his acceptance of office, and the blame for which was never laid at his door. Six years later he brought to a close a long and useful parliamentary career. Mr. Childers was at all times a man of business rather than an orator or a debater, though, on his own subjects, he knew how to speak effectively. He had the general respect of the House of Commons, and proved his own interest in its proceedings by the frequency of

his visits, since 1892, to the Distinguished Strangers' Gallery, particularly on occasions when the debates concerned departments over which he had presided. In private life his services as a director were given to a considerable number of important undertakings; but he made a point of resigning all his directorships whenever he held any political office. Mr. Childers was a devout Churchman, like his leader, Mr. Gladstone, whom he followed with a touching fidelity throughout his career.

Mr. Childers, whose first wife died in 1875, married, secondly, 1879, Katharine Ann, daughter of the Right Rev. A. T. Gilbert, Bishop of Winchester, and widow of Colonel the Hon. Gilbert Elliot, and her death preceded his own by a few months. His last illness was of very brief duration, and his death occurred almost unexpectedly on January 29 at his house, St. George's Place, Hyde Park.

On the 1st, at Southsea, aged 75, **George Cuninghame Meiklejohn, M.D.** Educated at Edinburgh and Glasgow; entered Army Medical Service, 1843; served with 51st Light Infantry in Burmah, 1852; Crimean Campaign, 1854-5; and with 70th Regiment in the New Zealand War, 1863, and the Abyssinian War, 1867-8. On the 2nd, at Upottery Manor, Devon, aged 66, **Viscountess Sidmouth**, Georgina Susan, daughter of Hon. the Rev. George Pellew, D.D. Married, 1848, William, third Viscount Sidmouth. On the 2nd, at Brussels, aged 33, **Hubert J. W. Frère Orban**. Born at Liège, where he was educated and called to the Bar, and elected by the Liberal party to the House of Representatives, 1847; Minister of Public Works, 1847-8; of Finance, 1848-52; and Prime Minister, 1857-70, and again, 1878-84. He lost his seat in 1894. He was the founder of the Banque Nationale and the Caisse d'Epargne, and during his administration the hours of labour were regulated, the salt tax repealed, and octrois abolished. On the 2nd, at Corfu, aged 51, **Edward William Bonham**. First entered the Consular Service as unpaid Consul at Naples, 1862-70; in charge of Indian mails between London and Egypt, 1870-2; successively Vice-Consul at Jassy, Consul at Pernambuco and Calais, and the Ionian Islands. On the 3rd, at Aston Hall, Sutton Coldfield, aged 80, **Hon. Edward Swynfen Parker Jervis**, third son of second Viscount St. Vincent. Educated at Christ Church, Oxford. Married, first, 1838, Mary, daughter of J. Barker; and second, Maude, daughter of Rev. C. H. Mainwaring, of Whitmore, Staffordshire. On the 3rd, at Dorking, aged 82, **James Dixon, F.R.C.S.**, a distinguished oculist. Educated at St. Thomas' Hospital; retired, 1870, and devoted himself to literary pursuits. On the 4th, at Berlin, aged 74, **Prince Alexander of Prussia**, eldest son of Prince Frederick. Entered the Army, and was attached to the headquarters of the Crown Prince during the Austro-Prussian War of 1866. On the 4th, at Bonn, aged 74, **Professor Joseph Hubert Reinkens**, Bishop of the German Old Catholics. Born at Burtschied, near Aix-la-Chapelle; educated at Bonn; entered the Priests' Seminary at Cologne, 1847; obtained the degree of Doctor of Theology at Munich, 1849; appointed Teacher of Ecclesiastical History at Breslau, 1850; and Professor, 1857; Preacher at the Breslau Cathedral, 1852-8; was one of the fourteen Professors who at Nuremberg protested against the Vatican Decree, 1870; excommunicated by Prince Bishop Förster of Breslau, 1872; elected Bishop by the delegates of the Old Catholics, and consecrated by the Dutch Old Catholic Bishop Heycamb of Deventer, 1873. On the 5th, at Great Cumberland Place, London, aged 92, **Colonel the Hon. Nathaniel Henry Massey**, younger son of second Lord Clarina. Entered the Army, 1822; served in 70th Regiment; retired, 1854; Lieutenant-Colonel, West York Militia, 1855-61. Married, 1828, Emily, daughter of David Lyon, of Portland Place, London. On the 6th, at Saughton Hall, Midlothian, aged 82, **Sir James Gardiner Baird**, seventh baronet. Entered 10th Hussars, 1833; and was Major of Midlothian Volunteers,

1859-83; Aide-de-camp to the Queen, 1881. Married, 1845, **Henrietta Mary**, sister of Sir John Don-Wauchope, eighth baronet. On the 6th, at Ilfracombe, aged 92, **Rev. Benjamin Price**, Bishop Primus of the Free Church of England, son of Isaac Price, of Builth, a leader of the Welsh Presbyterian body. Admitted to its ministry, 1830, and for some time connected with Newtown, Montgomeryshire; invited in 1845 to the Free Church at Ilfracombe, built in the previous year by Rev. James Shore, who had withdrawn from the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Exeter and founded the first Free Church at Totnes. In 1863 the various Free Churches elected Rev. B. Price their first Bishop, and he was consecrated in 1876 by Bishop Oridge of the Reformed Episcopal Church of America. On the 6th, at Lennox Gardens, Brompton, aged 57, **Major-General Hon. Alexander Stewart**, third son of ninth Earl of Galloway. Educated at Woolwich Academy; entered Royal Artillery, 1857; served in the China War, 1860, and the Afghan Campaign, 1878-80; Aide-de-camp to the Viceroy Earls Canning, Elgin, and Mayo, 1861-72. Married, 1883, Adela Maria, daughter of Sir Robert Loder. On the 6th, at Nimes, aged 61, **Monsignor Gilly**, Bishop of Nimes, a distinguished scholar and the author of several devotional works. On the 7th, at Westerham, Kent, aged 56, **Major-General George Colville Borthwick**, son of Peter Borthwick, M.P. Accompanied Lord Dufferin to Syria, 1860, and subsequently entered the Imperial Ottoman Army and saw much service in the Principalities and Balkans. Was appointed Chief of the Gendarmerie in Eastern Roumelia, 1878. Married, 1884, Sophie, daughter of Captain Schylowsky of the Imperial Russian Guard. On the 7th, at Brighton, aged 57, **Right Hon. Sir Julian Goldsmid, M.P.**, son of Frederick Goldsmid, M.P. Educated privately and at University College; graduated with high honours at the University of London; called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, 1864; sat as a Liberal for Honiton, 1866-7; Rochester, 1870-80; South St. Pancras, 1885-95, having become a Liberal Unionist. Was connected with many important public companies, and was for many years President of the Anglo-Jewish Association. Married, 1868, Virginia, daughter of F. Philipson, of Florence. On the 8th, at Paris, aged 51, **Paul Verlaine**, a poet of various experiences. Born at Metz; fought against the Germans during the siege of Paris and afterwards for the Commune, 1870-1; escaped to Brussels, where he suffered imprisonment for an assault upon his friend, Arthur Rimbaud, 1873-5. On his release he entered a religious house, and subsequently retired to a country village, but in 1881 returned to the world. Visited England, and for some time was a teacher of French in Lincolnshire, London, and Oxford. His first volume of "Poèmes Saturnins" appeared in 1867, and he continued writing in prose and verse until 1895. He was the chief of the new school of the Parnassiens. Married, 1870, Mathilde Mantz, half-sister of the composer C. de Sivry. On the 9th, at Montreal, aged 86, **Hon. Edward Murphy**, a member of the Canadian Senate. Born in Carlow; emigrated with his parents to Canada, 1824; entered a hardware house, of which he gradually rose to be the head partner. Was the founder of the Irish Catholic Temperance Society in Canada and of the St. Patrick's Society, and took a leading part in all philanthropic movements. On the 10th, at Edinburgh, aged 62, **Major-General Alexander Cunningham Bruce, C.B.** Entered the Army, 1852; served with 91st Highlanders with distinction in Zulu War, 1879. On the 10th, at Much Marcle, Herefordshire, aged 87, **Rev. Allen William Chatfield**, son of Rev. Dr. Chatfield, of Chatteris, Cambridge. Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, 1829; First Class Classical Tripos, 1831; ordained, 1832; appointed to the vicarage of Much Marcle, 1847. Was a distinguished classical scholar, and proficient in manly exercises. On the 10th, at Armagh, aged 61, **The Most Rev. Robert Samuel Gregg**, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland, son of Dr. John Gregg, Bishop of Cork. Educated at Trinity College, Dublin; B.A., 1857; Incumbent of Christ Church, Belfast, 1859-62; of Frankfield, and Rector of Carrigrohane, 1862-74; Dean of Cork, 1874-5; Bishop of Ossory, 1875-8; of Cork, 1878-93, when he was elected by the Bench of Bishops to the Archbishopric of Armagh. Married, 1863, Elinor, daughter of John Hugh Bainbridge, of Frankfield, Co. Cork. On the 11th, at Lisbon, aged 65, **Joao de Deus**, a distinguished Portuguese poet, the fifth of fourteen children of Pedro Josa Ramos, a shopkeeper at Messina (Algarve). First poems, 1851-5; studied at the University of Coimbra; editor of a newspaper at Beja, 1862-4, when he was elected a member of the Chamber of Deputies. His principal works were "Flores do Campo," "Ramo de Flores," and "Folhas Soltas." On the 11th, at Kensington, aged 76, **Henry Holroyd**, second son of G. C. Holroyd, of Exeter. Called to the Bar at the Middle Temple, 1853; appointed County Court Judge, 1880; resigned, 1894. Married, 1850, Louisa,

daughter of Edward Gordon, of Madras. On the 13th, at Cairo, aged 47, **Earl of Kingston**, Henry Ernest Newcomen King-Tenison, eighth earl. Educated at Rugby; Lord-Lieutenant of Roscommon. Married, 1872, Florence, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Tenison, of Kilronan Castle, Co. Roscommon, whose name he assumed in addition to his own (King), 1883. On the 13th, at Hitchin, aged 76, **James Hack Tuke**, son of Dr. Hack Tuke, of the Mid York "Retreat." A member of the Society of Friends and of the banking firm of Messrs. Sharples & Co., Hitchin. Devoted many years to philanthropic works, and took a personal part in the relief of the sufferers of the Irish famine, 1846-7; of the Parisians after the war, 1871; of the victims of the chronic distress in Western Ireland, 1880-4; and of the inhabitants of the Island of Achil, 1886-8. Married, first, 1843, Elizabeth Janson; and second, 1882, Georgina Mary, daughter of Dr. George Kennedy, of Belford, Co. Dublin. On the 14th, at Teneriffe, aged 35, **Captain William Sealy Vidal, R.E.**, son of E. U. Vidal, of Bideford, Devon. Appointed to the Royal Engineers, 1879; served in the Egyptian War, 1882, and Nile Expedition, 1884-5, with great distinction, and with the Egyptian Frontier Field Force, 1885-6; Chief Inspector of the School of Submarine Mining, 1892-5. On the 14th, at Windsor, aged 59, **Major-General Edward Marcus Beresford**, second son of Right Hon. Major William Beresford, M.P. Educated at Eton; entered the Scots Guards, 1854; served in the Crimea, 1855. On the 15th, at Grosvenor Street, aged 79, **Earl De la Warr**, Reginald Windsor Sackville, seventh Earl De la Warr. Educated at Balliol College, Oxford; B.A., 1838; ordained, 1838; Rector of Withyham, Sussex, 1840-5, and afterwards abandoned his orders; succeeded his mother in the barony of Backhurst, 1870, and his brother in the earldom, 1873; abandoned the name of West by royal licence, 1871. Married, 1867, Hon. Constance Mary E., daughter of first Lord Langton. On the 15th, at Kensington Palace, aged 77, **Admiral Lord Frederick Kerr**, son of sixth Marquess of Lothian. Entered the Navy, 1831; served in the operations on the coast of Syria, 1840; Groom-in-Waiting, 1868-91; Bath King-at-Arms, 1892. Married, 1846, Emily, daughter of General Sir Peregrine Maitland. On the 15th, at Lake View, Killarney, aged 73, **Sir Maurice James O'Connell**, second baronet, nephew of Daniel O'Connell, of Darrinane Abbey, "The Liberator." High Sheriff, Co. Kerry, 1850. Married, 1855, Emily Clunes, daughter of Rear-Admiral Sir Richard O'Connor. On the 15th, at Clapham, aged 84, **Jane Stephens**, a popular actress, who first appeared at the Olympic Theatre in 1840, and took her farewell of the stage at the Shaftesbury Theatre in 1889. On the 17th at Llanover, Monmouth, aged 94, **Lady Llanover**, Augusta, daughter and co-heiress with her sister, Baroness Bunsen, of Benjamin Waddington, of Llanover. Married, 1823, Benjamin Hall, of Abercarne, created Lord Llanover. Took a great interest in Welsh literature; edited Mrs. Delany's "Diaries and Correspondence" (1862); and was the author of an excellent cookery book. She encouraged the literature, music, and home industries of Wales in many practical ways. On the 18th, at Tours, aged 79, **Cardinal Meignan**. Born at Mayenne; educated there and in Paris; Professor of Theology at the Sorbonne, 1859-64; Vicar-General of Paris; Bishop of Chalons, 1865-82; of Arras, 1882-4, when he was appointed Archbishop of Tours; Cardinal, 1893. On the 18th, at South Hill, Limerick, aged 67, **Thomas Enraght O'Brien**, Lord-Lieutenant of Co. Limerick. Partner in the firm of Messrs. John Quin & Co., grocers and spirit merchants. Took a leading part in municipal and philanthropic works. Appointed Lord-Lieutenant, 1894. On the 18th, at Manchester, aged 70, **Ben Brierley**. Began life as a factory hand, and acquired great popularity as a writer in Lancashire dialect under the name of "Ab-o'-th'-Yate." On the 18th, at Paris, aged 67, **Charles Thomas Floquet**. Born at St. Jean de Luz; studied there and at Bayonne; admitted to the Paris Bar, 1862, and had considerable practice in defending Republican journalists; was brought into notice by his apostrophe to the Czar, Alexander II., on his visiting the Paris Law Courts, 1867; elected a member of the Paris Municipal Council, 1872, and of the Chamber, 1876; nominated by Gambetta, Prefect of the Seine, 1882, but returned in the same year as Deputy; President of the Chamber, 1885-8, when he became Premier for a year, and fought a duel with General Boulanger, whom he wounded; and was again President, 1888-93, when he lost his seat as Deputy, but was elected Senator for Paris, 1894. On the 18th, at Charlwood, Surrey, aged 59, **Vice-Admiral Frederick Robinson, C.B.**, son of Admiral Hercules Robinson, of Rosmead, Westmeath. Entered the Royal Navy, 1848; served in the Burmese War, 1852-3; in the China Seas against pirates, 1853-4; in the Sea of Okhotsk and Gulf of Tartary against the Russians, 1854-5; and in the China War, 1860; Naval Aide-de-camp to the Queen, 1885-7; Commander-in-Chief on

the East Indies Station, 1891-4. Married, first, 1864, Wilhelmina, daughter of William Bradley, M.L.C. of New South Wales; and second, 1889, Alice, daughter of Colonel C. Blackbuneten, of Brookfield, Slough. On the 19th, at Henbury, aged 88, **Ernest Augustus Perceval**, youngest son of Right Hon. Spencer Perceval, M.P. Entered the Army, 1825; served in 15th Hussars. Married, 1830, Beatrice, daughter of Sir John Trevelyan, baronet. On the 19th, at Bayswater, aged 75, **Henri van Lann**. Born in Holland and educated in France; settled in England, 1848; was successively French Master at King William's College, Cheltenham College, and the Edinburgh Academy; the author of a work on French literature; translator of Taine's "English Literature," Molière, and "Gil Blas." On the 20th, at St. George's Square, S.W., aged 70, **Captain John Ward, R.N.**, son of Edward Willis Ward, R.N. Entered the Royal Navy as a Sub-Lieutenant, 1848; served in the Baltic in the Russian War, 1854-5, and in the China War, 1863-4. Married, 1852, Mary Hope, daughter of John Bowie, of Edinburgh. On the 21st, at Philadelphia, U.S.A., aged 83, **Dr. William Henry Furness, D.D.** Born at Boston, Mass.; graduated at Harvard College, 1820; Unitarian Minister at Philadelphia, 1825-75; one of the earliest and most eloquent anti-slavery advocates; was the author of the "John Brown" song, and of many religious works and prose and verse translations from the German. On the 21st, at Jena, aged 91, **Geheimrath Johann Gustav Stickel**, a learned Oriental numismatist, the sole survivor of the Arabic scholars under Sylvestre de Lacy. Born at Eisenach, and Professor at Jena University since 1827. On the 22nd, at Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, aged 59, **Sir Henry George Calcraft, K.C.B.**, son of John Hales Calcraft, of Kempstone Hall, Wareham. Entered the Board of Trade, 1852, and became Private Secretary successively to the Presidents from 1859-74, when he was appointed Assistant Secretary to the Railway Department, and Permanent Secretary, 1886-93. On the 22nd, at Bayswater, aged 67, **Hon. James J. Fellows**, son of Israel Fellows, of Annapolis, Nova Scotia. Agent-General in London, 1887; M.L.C., 1891. Married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Allan, of Portland, New Brunswick; and second, Jane Hamlin, daughter of James R. Crane, of St. John, New Brunswick. On the 23rd, at Arborfield, Berks, aged 96, **Rev. Sir John Warren Hayes**, third baronet. Educated at Harrow and Wadham College, Oxford; B.A., 1821; Rector of Arborfield, 1839-79. Married, 1844, Ellen, daughter of George Beauchamp, of The Priory, Berks. On the 23rd, at Elbing, aged 83, **Ferdinand Schichan**, founder of the dockyard and foundry at Elbing, where he began life as a journeyman locksmith. Studied at the Industrial Institute, Berlin, and afterwards in England, and founded his factory at Elbing, 1837, where the first iron ship and steam dredger in Germany were constructed. On the 23rd, at Eastbourne, aged 51, **Lieutenant-Colonel William Wesbern Taylor**, son of William Trevor Taylor, B.C.S. Entered the Army, 1863; served with the Royal Irish Fusiliers (87th Regiment) in the Egyptian War, 1882. On the 24th, at Winslow, Bucks, aged 72, **Henry Ralph Lambton**, eldest son of William Henry Lambton, brother of first Earl of Durham. Educated at Eton and University College, Oxford. Married, 1867, Elizabeth Mary Caroline, daughter of W. B. Harcourt, of St. Leonards, Berks. On the 24th, at Biarritz, aged 77, **General Richard Charles Lawrence, C.B.**, the last survivor of the five Lawrence brothers, sons of Colonel Alexander William Lawrence, all of whom distinguished themselves. Entered the Indian Army, 1834; served with the Bengal Native Infantry through the Sutlej Campaign, 1846; Secretary to Military Depôt, Punjab, 1856; chief British officer with Cashmere contingent at the siege of Delhi, 1857; charged with disarming the native troops round Lahore; Superintendent of the Hill States, 1862-7; Resident at Nepaul, 1867-71. Married, 1837, Ellen, daughter of Colonel William Youngson, of Bowscar, Cumberland. On the 24th, at Leamington, aged 83, **Tracy Turnerelli**, son of Peter Turnerelli, a sculptor of Swiss origin, whose profession he followed for some years in this country and in Russia. Was chiefly known in connection with the "Golden Wreath" subscribed for by Conservative workmen in recognition of Lord Beaconsfield's services to the empire. On the 25th, at Portland Place, aged 78, **Alexander Macmillan**, youngest of the four sons of Duncan Macmillan, of Arran. Born at Irvine, Ayrshire; originally educated for a schoolmaster, and held a post as such at Nitshill, Paisley; came to London, 1859; entered the firm of Messrs. Seeley, the publishers, where his brother Daniel was already an assistant; started in business with his brother, 1843, and in the same year moved to Cambridge, but the firm did not adopt the title of Macmillan & Co. until 1850. After the death of his elder brother, Daniel, in 1857, Alexander opened a house in London, first in Henrietta Street and afterwards in Bedford Street, Covent

Garden, the business rapidly increasing, and the firm, which was recruited from time to time by the admission of members of the family, ranked amongst the first publishing houses in London before his retirement. He married, first, 1852, a sister of George Brierley, of Cambridge, a distinguished essayist; and second, 1875, Miss Barbara Piqualel. On the 25th, at Bordeaux, aged 88, **Pierre Gustave Brunet**, a learned bibliographer. Born at Bordeaux. The author of several works on books, of which the most important was "Manuel du Libraire." On the 26th, at Manchester, aged 72, **Benjamin L. Green**, son of Rev. Samuel Green, of Thropstone. Apprenticed to John Snowe, publisher, of Paternoster Row, and whilst still young started in the same business; removed to Southport, 1866, and became editor of the local paper; appointed Secretary of the Manchester Liberal Association, 1872-80, and of the Manchester Liberal Union, 1880-95. On the 27th, at Elcot Park, Berks, aged 69, **Francis Hobson Appach**, son of Thomas Appach. Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge; B.A., 1848 (Senior Optimist); called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, 1848. On the 27th, at Kenwith, Bideford, aged 75, **Major-General Hickman Thomas Molesworth**, son of Major-General Arthur Molesworth. Entered the Army, 1839; served in the China Expedition, 1841-2; Indian Mutiny, 1857-8. Married, 1862, Mariane, daughter of Robert Lindsay, of Stratton, N.B. On the 27th, at Eaton Square, aged 86, **Rev. the Hon. Augustus Frederick Phipps**, son of third Baron and first Earl Mulgrave. Educated at Harrow and Trinity College, Cambridge; M.A., 1831; Rector of Halesworth, Suffolk, 1834-9; Boxford, 1839-50; Euston with Follenham, 1850-83; Chaplain-in-Ordinary to the Queen, 1847; Hon. Canon of Ely, 1875. Married, 1837, Lady Mary Elizabeth Emily Fitzroy, daughter of fifth Duke of Grafton. On the 27th, at Barnstaple, aged 59, **Major-General Hugh Chichester, R.A.**, fourth son of Robert Chichester, of Hale, Barnstaple. Entered the Army, 1856; served with distinction through the Indian Mutiny. Married, 1869, Alice, daughter of Thomas Longman, of Farnborough Hill, Hants. On the 28th, at St. George's Square, S.W., aged 57, **Sir Joseph Barnby**. Born at York, where he was a chorister at the Minster; came to London and studied at the Royal Academy of Music, 1854-6; Organist at St. James the Less, London, 1859-63; choirmaster, St. Andrew's, Well Street, 1863-71; St. Anne's, Soho, 1871-5; succentor and director of music at Eton, 1873-92; conductor of the London Musical Society, 1878-86; at the Royal Academy of Music, 1886-92; Guildhall School of Music, 1892; and Royal Choral Society, 1887. During his long career he did much to raise the standard of public musical taste and to make popular works which had been neglected. Married, 1878, Edith, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Silverthorne. On the 29th, at Weston-super-Mare, aged 63, **Major-General George Brydges, R.M.A.**, son of Captain Brydges, R.N. Entered the Royal Marines, 1848; served with the Baltic Expedition, 1854-5; commanded Marines during the Japanese Revolution, 1868. Married, 1889, Alys E., daughter of Rev. W. R. Coswell Rogers, of Dowdeswell, Gloucestershire. On the 30th, at Madrid, aged 56, **Señor Vicente Palmaroli**, Director of the Art Gallery at Madrid. Studied art in Paris; obtained Second Class Medal, 1867; head of the Spanish School in Rome, 1873-80. On the 31st, at Naples, aged 72, **Signor Fiorelli**. Inspector of Excavations at Pompeii, 1845-9; Inspector of Antiquities for Southern Italy and Professor of Archæology, 1860-5; Senator, 1865-75, when he was appointed Director-General of National Museums.

FEBRUARY.

Sir Charles Aitchison, K.C.S.I. — Charles Umpherston Aitchison, son of Hugh Aitchison, was born at Edinburgh in 1832, and educated at the High School and University. After taking his M.A. degree he went to Germany and studied philosophy and theology under Professor Tholuck. In 1855 he returned to England and offered himself as a candidate at the first open competition for the Indian Civil Service, coming out first of 112 candidates for twenty appointments.

On September 24, 1856, Aitchison arrived in Calcutta, where in seven months he passed high in Hindi, Hindustani and Persian, and in Indian law and history, while riding was not neglected. The old Haileybury civilians so much resented the reform which by Act of Parliament had deprived them of the rich monopoly of service that, with a few exceptions, Calcutta and even provincial society refused to receive the competition-wallahs till Lady Canning

intervened. After a brief apprenticeship as Assistant Magistrate in one of the more desert districts of the North-Western Provinces, Aitchison was ordered to Lahore, the provincial capital, ignorant of the Mutiny which had broken out at Meerut. In Lahore he was under the eye of Sir John Lawrence, and was appointed personal assistant to Thornton, the Judicial Commissioner. Whenever Mutiny duties gave him an hour's rest, he turned to the preparation of his "Manual of the Criminal Law of the Punjab," or contributed articles to the *Calcutta Review*.

Lord Canning sought for the best of the competition-wallahs to become Foreign Under-Secretary, and Charles Aitchison was suddenly summoned to take up the office coveted by many. From November, 1859, when he joined it in Calcutta, he began to make his mark on the history of India. His "Notes" on papers and cases excited the admiration of the Secretary, the members of Council, and the Viceroy himself, and they frequently became the substance and the words of the despatches to the Secretary of State. After the administrative revolution of 1857-59, the Foreign Office was in a state of confusion, and its staff was insufficient in every way. Charles Aitchison got *carte blanche* from Lord Canning to reorganise it on a system which enabled it to meet its increasing responsibilities as defined in his seven volumes of "Treaties and Engagements relating to India." Before he had completed his reforms in the Calcutta Office he had to accompany the Viceroy in the first of those more than royal progresses all over Northern, Western, and Central India, during which Lord Canning rebuked the passive and rewarded the actively loyal among the Maharajahs, Nawabs, and other feudatory sovereigns. The application of what was known as the Sanad of Adoption policy to each chief was worked out by Aitchison with skill, patience, and success.

After reverting for a time to district work as Deputy-Commissioner and Commissioner of Lahore and Secretary to the Punjab Government, Aitchison returned to Calcutta and Simla as Sir John Lawrence's Foreign Secretary. For the next eight years he was the trusted adviser and personal friend of the successive Viceroys—Lord Mayo and Lord Northbrook—in carrying out the Lawrence policy alike within the empire and towards the native Powers of Central Asia, especi-

ally Afghanistan under Shere Ali as Ameer. When Lord Lytton began to reverse that policy, Aitchison was on furlough, worn out for the time by years of responsibility and toil. In March, 1878, he became Chief Commissioner of British Burma, and subsequently he was appointed in 1882 Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab.

In this important position he endeared himself to all by his sympathetic regard for native rights and his knowledge of the people and their natural rulers, by the righteousness of his administration, and by his relations with his officers. Himself a scholar, he sought to win the Brahman, Pundit, and Maulvi classes to loyalty to our rule by communicating Western science and literature through the Oriental languages, and the Punjab University was his creation. As the assessment of the land-tax or rent of each district fell in he watched lest the new demands of the State should provoke disloyalty or should check the social prosperity of the people. When Lord Ripon persisted in the attempt to press local government on the whole country the Lieutenant-Governor worked out the principle for the Punjab with rare skill. He was the first to seat a native judge on the bench of the Chief Court, as had long been successfully done in the other High Courts of India. He won the affection of the native chiefs, and in the intimacy of private friendship with some of them he led them to a nobler ideal and a higher life. His whole administration was to every class a moral and intellectual force, recognised by even those who differed from him. The Aitchison College, for the instruction of the sons of the chiefs, and the Lady Aitchison Hospital for Women, will long be the visible and beneficent memorials of his administration.

In deference to a promise made to Lord Dufferin, he returned, after a brief rest in England, and took up the post of member of Council, which he held for about a year (1887-88), after which he returned finally to London, where, like the other great chiefs of the Punjab school of administration, he soon gave his leisure up to works of philanthropy and to the Church Missionary Society. His death took place on February 18 at Oxford, where, as an honorary M.A. of the University, he had been staying. In 1863 he had married Beatrice Lyell, daughter of James Cox, of Clement Park, Forfarshire.

On the 1st, at Queen Anne's Mansions, Westminster, aged 59, **George Parker Bidder, Q.C.**, eldest son of George Bidder, "the calculating boy" and distinguished engineer. Educated at King's College, London, and at Edinburgh and Cambridge Universities (Trinity College); B.A., 1858, seventh Wrangler; called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, 1860; Q.C., 1874; was a prominent Counsel at the Parliamentary Bar, etc. Married, 1860, Elizabeth, daughter of J. Robinson M'Lean, M.P. On the 2nd, at East Anstey, aged 64, **Rev. John Owen**. Educated at St. David's, Lampeter, where he was for some time Assistant Lecturer on Hebrew; Vicar of East Anstey, 1869; author of "Evenings with the Skeptics" and other speculative works of considerable learning. On the 2nd, at Oldenburg, aged 69, **Grand Duchess of Oldenburg**, Elizabeth Pauline, daughter of Joseph, Duke of Saxe-Altenburg. Married, 1852, Nicolas, Grand Duke of Oldenburg. On the 3rd, at Oakley Street, Chelsea, aged 69, **Lady Wilde**, Jane Francesca, daughter of Charles Elgee. Married, 1851, Sir W. R. W. Wilde, M.D., a Dublin oculist. She took an active literary part in the Irish National Movement of 1845; wrote for the *Nation* under the name of "John Fenshawe Ellis"; and published a volume of poems by "Speranza," many of them of a very patriotic nature. She was also the author of several other works and adaptations from the French and German. On the 3rd, at Brisbane, Queensland, aged 59, **Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Robert Drury, C.M.G.**, son of Rev. William Drury, some time Master of Harrow School, Tutor to the Prince Consort, and Chaplain to the Legation at Brussels. Born at Brussels; emigrated to Australia, 1852; was clerk in Bank of Australasia, 1853-60; appointed Manager of the Branch in Queensland, 1860-72, when he was appointed General Manager, Queensland National Bank; served in the first volunteer corps raised in Australia, 1854, and took an active part in the movement, rising to be Lieutenant-Colonel commanding the Artillery. Married, 1869, Barbara, daughter of John Grahame, of Sydney, N.S.W. On the 4th, at Dublin, aged 75, **Sir John Ball Greene, C.B.**, son of George Greene, of Dublin, a Civil Engineer. Appointed to the Valuation Office, Dublin, 1853, of which he became Chief Commissioner. Married, first, 1855, Ellen, daughter of Robert Wesley, surgeon, R.N.; and second, 1867, Charlotte, daughter of Edward H. Courtenay, of Cheltenham. On the 4th, at Durham, aged 85, **John Henry Le Keux**, a distinguished line engraver. Born in Argyll Street, King's Cross, the son of an engraver; apprenticed to James Basire, and afterwards joined his father; produced the plates for Ruskin's "Modern Painters," "Stones of Venice," and many other works, including the famous Oxford Almanacs. Married, 1856, Anne, daughter of Mr. Andrews, publisher, of Durham. On the 5th, at Bryn Tanat, Oswestry, aged 73, **Henry David Leslie**, son of J. Leslie. Was Honorary Secretary (1847) and afterwards Conductor (1855) of the Amateur Musical Society, when he founded the Musical Choir, which lasted until 1887; Principal of the National College of Music, 1864, and of the Guild of Amateurs, 1874. He composed several popular oratorios, cantatas, etc. Married, 1857, Mary B., daughter of W. H. Perry, of Shrewsbury. On the 5th, at Sandgate, aged 72, **General Sir Charles Patton Keyes, G.C.B.**, son of Thomas Keyes, E.I.C.M.S. Entered 30th Madras N.I., 1843; took part in the principal campaigns on the Punjab frontier, 1849-70. Married, 1870, Katharine Jessie, daughter of James Norman. On the 6th, at Paris, aged 84, **Jean Auguste Barre**, a distinguished sculptor and medallist, son of Jean Barre. Engraver to the French Mint, 1842-55; first exhibited at the Salon, 1831, an allegorical figure of "Liberty," and from that time continued to execute statues and busts in bronze and marble with great success. On the 7th, at Canterbury, aged 73, **Dr. Reinhold Rost, C.I.E.** Born at Eisenberg in Saxe-Altenburg; educated at the Gymnasium of Altenburg and the University of Jena, where he graduated in 1847; came to England the same year and was appointed Oriental Lecturer at St. Augustine's College, Canterbury, 1848; Secretary to the Royal Asiatic Society, 1861; and Librarian at the India Office, 1869-93. Under his care this library became the most complete repository of Oriental manuscripts in Europe. He was the author of numerous philological and other works. Married, 1863, Minna, daughter of Geheimrath F. Lane, of Magdeburg, Prussia. On the 7th, at North Kensington, aged 65, **George Robertson, M.I.C.E., F.R.S.**, son of Lord Benholme. Articled to Mr. Rendel, the civil engineer, and subsequently a partner in the firm; made an extensive survey of the harbours of India, 1870-3; and built the new docks at Leith. Married, 1862, Eliza Margaret, daughter of Captain Charles Fraser, R.N. On the 7th, at Nice, aged 77, **Colonel William Edwyn Evans**. Entered the Bombay Army, 1835; took part in the capture of Aden, 1839; served as Major of the Land Transport during the Crimean Campaign, 1855-6. On the 7th, at

Indianapolis, aged 73, **William Hayden English**. Educated and practised as a lawyer; returned to Congress, 1851-61, and was the author of the compromise under which Kansas became a State of the Union; nominated by the Democratic Convention (1880) for Vice-Presidency; after 1861 he realised a large fortune in commerce, which he spent in philanthropic works. On the 9th, at Sydenham, aged 66, **George Schilling**. Born at Dublin; educated at King's College, London; appointed, 1855, Principal of the Martineau College at Lucknow, which he fortified against the mutineers, but was subsequently forced to retreat to the Residency with all his boys, and was there placed in command of an important post during the siege, for which he received the thanks of the Queen, an estate in Oudh, and subsequently the Governorship of the Lawrence Military Asylum. On the 9th, at Kensington Square, aged 62, **Richard Powney Ebdon, C.B.**, son of Rev. C. J. Ebdon, of Great Stukeley, Hunts. Scholar of Christ College, Cambridge; B.A., 1856 (thirty-first Wrangler); entered the Colonial Office, 1858. Married, first, 1863, Anne, daughter of Rev. Thomas Sheepshanks; and second, 1887, Emily, daughter of W. Castle, of Clifton, and widow of Lambert Rees. On the 9th, at Crossmolina, Co. Mayo, aged 76, **Lieutenant-Colonel William Knox Orme**, son of William Orme, of Glenmore. Entered 16th Lancers, 1840; served against Mahrattas and in the Sutlej Campaign, 1845-7, and with 10th Foot in Indian Mutiny, 1857-8. On the 10th, at Rajkot, Bombay, aged 57, **Chester Macnaghten**, son of Elliot Macnaghten. Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge; B.A., 1866 (Second Class Classics); appointed Principal of the Rajkumar or Chief's College at Rajkot, Kathiawar, 1870. On the 10th, at Upper Norwood, aged 65, **Peter Bayne, LL.D.**, son of the parish minister of Fodderty, N.B. Educated at Aberdeen School and University; succeeded Hugh Miller as editor of the *Witness*, and afterwards came to London as a journalist; author of the "Life of Hugh Miller," "The Free Church of Scotland," and other works. On the 10th, at Clifton, aged 81, **Charles Richardson, C.E.**, the originator of the Severn Tunnel. On the 11th, at Kensington, aged 77, **General Sir Charles John Foster, K.C.B.**, son of Edward Foster. Entered the Army, 1836; served with 16th Lancers in the Afghan War, 1842-4, and the Sutlej Campaign, 1846; member of Indian Council, 1878-88; Colonel, 21st Hussars, 1882-6, and of 16th Lancers, 1886. On the 11th, at Heidelberg, aged 57, **Professor Eduard Winkelmann**. Born at Danzig; studied at Berlin and Göttingen; for some time joint editor of "Monumenta Germaniæ Historica"; after some years as *Privat Docent* at Dorpat, elected to the Chair of History at Berne, 1869, and at Heidelberg, 1873; appointed President of the Baden Historical Commission, 1883, and also employed in the Bavarian Historical Commission; the author of numerous works. On the 12th, at Paris, aged 85, **Ambroise Thomas**, son of a professor of music. Born at Metz; studied at the Paris Conservatoire under Lesueur, etc.; obtained the Prix de Rome, 1832, where he studied, 1833-6; produced his first work, "La Double Echelle," at the Opéra Comique, 1837, but his first success was "La Caid," 1849. His most important compositions were "Le Songe d'une Eté" (1850), "La Cour de Célimène" (1855), "Psyche" (1856), and especially "Mignon" (1866), "Hamlet" (1868), and "Françoise de Rimini" (1882). Succeeded Auber in 1871 as Director of the Conservatoire. On the 13th, at Lee, Kent, aged 63, **Rev. John Bradley Harbord**. Scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge; B.A. (Wrangler), 1852; appointed Chaplain in the Navy, and served in the Black Sea, 1854-6; Assistant Director of Education at the Admiralty, 1868; Inspector of Naval Schools, 1874; Chaplain to the Fleet, 1888; author of "Glossary of Navigation" and other works. On the 14th, at Cruise Town, Co. Meath, aged 50, **Sir William Ferdinand Alexander**, fifth baronet, son of Major William Alexander, Bengal Cavalry. Married, 1884, Edith, daughter of G. F. Heriot La Fargue, of Husbands Bosworth, Leicester. On the 14th, at Jermyn Street, London, aged 67, **Surgeon-General James Ekin, C.B. M.R.C.S.**, 1852; M.B., 1853; served with the 4th Regiment in the Crimea, 1854-6; Afghan War, 1879-80; Principal Medical Officer of the Infantry Division in the march from Cabul to Candahar, and of First Division in Egyptian Campaign, 1882. On the 15th, at Fousham Park, Bury St. Edmunds, aged 79, **Sir William Gilstrap**, first baronet, son of J. Gilstrap, of Newark-on-Trent, where he was born and educated. Entered the malting business and acquired a large fortune, much of which was spent on philanthropic works. Married, 1847, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Haigh, of Colne Bridge House, Huddersfield. On the 15th, at Vienna, aged 68, **Prince Constantine von Hohenlohe**, youngest son of Prince Francis Joseph von Hohenlohe-Schillingsfurst. Knight of the Golden Fleece; Lord Chamberlain to the Emperor of Austria. Married, 1859, Princess Pauline, daughter of Prince

Sayn-Wittgenstein Balebourg. On the 15th, at South Kensington, aged 64, **Captain Richard Sacheverell Bateman, R.N.**, younger son of Richard Thomas Bateman, of Hartington Hall, Co. Derby. Entered the Royal Navy, 1844; served during the Kaffir War, 1851-2; Crimean War, 1854-6; off the East Coast of Africa, 1872-3. On the 16th, at South Kensington, aged 69, **General James Thomas Walker, R.E., C.B., F.R.S.**, son of John Walker, M.R.C.S. Educated at Addiscombe; entered the Bombay Engineers, 1844; served in the Punjab Campaign, 1848-9; engaged in the Trans-Indus Frontier Survey, 1849-53; Indian Mutiny, 1857-8; Superintendent of the Great Trigonometrical Survey of India, 1861-8; Surveyor-General of India, 1878. Married, 1854, Alicia, daughter of Sir John Scott, K.C.B. On the 17th, at Twycross, Leicester, aged 65, **Dowager Lady de Clifford**, Harriet Agnes, daughter of Sir Charles Elliot, K.C.B. Married, 1853, Edward Southwell Russell, twenty-third Baron de Clifford. On the 17th, at Florence, aged 87, **Cristoforo Negri**. Born at Milan; studied law at Pavia, Gratz, and Vienna; Professor of Law at Padua, 1841-8; Rector of the Turin University, 1850-4; Chief of the Consular Department, which he reorganised; founded the Italian Geographical Society of Florence; wrote several works, and promoted expeditions to Central Africa, the Polar Regions, etc. On the 18th, at Paris, aged 66, **Sir Colville Arthur Durell Barclay, C.M.G.**, eleventh baronet, son of Sir David Barclay. Born and educated at Mauritius; entered Colonial Treasury, 1846-70; Collector of Customs and Acting Treasurer, 1870-6; Auditor-General of Ceylon, 1876-7. Married, 1855, Mélanie, daughter of G. J. de Belzium, of Mauritius. On the 19th, at Shaldon, Devon, aged 73, **General Sir Alfred William Lucas, K.C.B.**, son of Charles Lucas, of Cape Town. Entered the Bombay Army, 1838; served in the South Mahratta Campaign, 1844-5; Persian Expedition, 1857; Indian Mutiny, 1857-9; Deputy Commander-General, Bombay, 1863-77; and as head of Commissariat Department in the Abyssinian Campaign, 1867-8. Married, first, 1850, Mary Charlotte, daughter of Colonel S. Fallon, Bombay Infantry; and second, 1868, Florence Emma, daughter of Captain Caswell, R.N. On the 22nd, at Copenhagen, aged 76, **Bruun Junt Fog**. Born at Stege; graduated at Copenhagen University, 1842; ordained, 1843; served in a country district until 1857, when he was appointed Chaplain of Holmern Church; Holmern Provost, 1867; Bishop of Aarhus, 1881; Bishop of Copenhagen and Primate of Denmark, 1884-95; published, 1856, a work on the philosophy of Descartes, and was the author of several other philosophical works. On the 22nd at East Liss, Hants, aged 63, **Rev. Horace Waller, F.R.G.S.** Began life in business; went as volunteer with the first branch of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa in 1861; worked with Bishop Mackenzie, Dr. Livingstone, and others, in the Zambesi district; returned to England, 1865, and was ordained, 1867; Curate of Chatham, 1867-70; Vicar of Leytonstone, 1870-4; Rector of Twywell, Northants, 1874-95. He took an active part in the anti-slavery movements in England, France, and Spain, and was prominent in obtaining its abolition in Zanzibar. On the 24th, at Tansley Wood, Derbyshire, aged 68, **Childers Charles Radford**, only son of Edward Radford. Captain, Derbyshire Yeomanry. Married, 1856, Mary Elizabeth, daughter of James Hurt, of Wickswater. On the 24th, at Carlow, aged 39, **John Deasy**, son of Michael Deasy, C.E., of Cork. Returned for Cork City, 1884, in the place of John Daly, as a Nationalist; sat for Mayo (West), 1885-93; was for some time one of the Anti-Parnellite whips. On the 26th, at Florence, aged 75, **Charles Keating Tuckerman**. Born at Boston, Mass.; Minister to Greece, 1868-72; edited Rangabé's "Greece" (1867); author of "The Greeks of To-Day" (1873), "Poems" (1885). On the 26th, at Paris, aged 81, **Arsène Houssaye**. Born at Bruyères, near Laon; enlisted and fought at Antwerp, 1831; joined a wandering troupe of singers and ultimately came to Paris; began writing novels, dramas, critiques, and histories; Director of the Comédie Française, 1849-56. His most important works were "L'Histoire du 41ème Fauteuil de l'Académie," published in 1855, and his "Confessions" (1885-91). Married, 1847, Mademoiselle Brucy, who died young. On the 26th, at Brompton, aged 59, **Octavius Vaughan Morgan, F.S.S.**, eighth son of Thomas Morgan, of Glasbury, Breconshire. Educated at Abergavenny School; at the age of twenty-one became partner in the bank and crucible business of his brothers; sat as a Liberal for Battersea, 1885-92; defeated at Ashton-under-Lyne, 1892. Married, 1867, Katherine Ann, daughter of Henry Simkin, of Highbury. On the 27th, at Grieg, near Botzen, aged 24, **Archduke Albert Salvator**, of Austria, son of Archduke Carl Salvator, an officer in the Hussars. On the 28th, at Dover, aged 81, **Colonel William Little Stewart**. Entered the Army, 1833; served with 1st Royals through the Crimean Campaign, 1854-5.

On the 29th, at Oestrich, Germany, aged 77, **Albrecht von Stosch**. Born at Coblenz; educated at the Military Cadet School; entered the Infantry, 1835; passed through that branch into the Artillery and appointed to the Staff, 1855; Quartermaster-General to the Crown Prince during the Prusso-Austrian Campaign, 1866; was Intendant-General of the Army in the field during the Franco-Prussian War, 1870-1; appointed Director of Marine and Chief of the Admiralty, 1872; retired, 1883, in consequence of his disagreement with Prince Bismarck.

MARCH.

Archdeacon Denison.—George Anthony Denison was the fourth son of John Wilkinson, who had taken the name on succeeding to the fortune of his cousin, William Denison, of Kirkgate, Leeds. He was born at Ossington, in Nottinghamshire, on December 11, 1805. After various experiences at private schools he was sent to Eton for a couple of years, but he attributed his success in life to the four years spent subsequently at home under the tuition of Mr. Drury. He went to Christ Church in 1823, got a first-class in *Literæ Humaniores* in 1826, and an Oriel Fellowship, in the days when that was the prime distinction of Oxford, in 1828. Besides these he won the Chancellor's prizes for English and Latin Essays, but in the struggle for the Ireland scholarship and a Magdalen demyship, he was beaten by H. H. Dodgson and Roundell Palmer. In 1830 he became Tutor of Oriel, under Provost Hawkins, and two years afterwards, on his ordination, added to this office that of Curate of Cuddesdon under Bishop Bagot. There he remained till 1838, when his brother the Bishop of Salisbury gave him the living of Broadwinsor, in Dorset; and in the same year he married Georgina, eldest daughter of Mr. Henley, M.P. for Oxfordshire. At Broadwinsor he remained seven years. In 1843 the Bishop of Salisbury, in consequence of the incapacity of Bishop Law, was intrusted with the charge of the Diocese of Bath and Wells in addition to his own; and when the most valuable living in the latter diocese, East Brent, became vacant two years after, George Anthony was collated to it by his brother. When Bishop Bagot, a few weeks later, on Bishop Law's death, was translated from the See of Oxford to that of Bath and Wells, he made the Vicar of East Brent his examining chaplain, and in 1851 Archdeacon of Taunton.

After that no further change varied the peaceful course of Denison's outward life. "The great Archdeacon of the West," as Canon Liddon once

called him, set his face as a flint against almost everything that the nineteenth century called progress. National education, University reform, liberal interpretation of the Bible, were all objects of his determined and unceasing hostility. No half-hearted Conservative, he gloried in the old name of Tory; and to his efforts was largely due the expulsion of Mr. Gladstone from the representation of Oxford University, which the Archdeacon vainly attempted in 1853, but succeeded in effecting in 1865. But the ground of his action was all along religious rather than political. The absolute independence of the Church, and the inviolability of the form in which he had himself conceived her doctrines, were the ends which he proposed to himself from the beginning, and from which throughout his long life he never swerved. A happy conviction of his own infallibility, coupled with an entire indifference to the opinions of any one else, kept him from faltering for a moment in the course which he had chosen. His steady opposition to the Education Department was an instance of this. From first to last he would have nothing to do with "my lords." Conscience clauses, time-tabled or otherwise, were an abomination to him. No Government inspector was allowed to enter the doors of his school. The "grant" was, in his eyes, nothing but the bribe of a traitor.

Though his Oxford life was contemporary with the commencement of the "Tracts for the Times" he was never much influenced by their authors. Oriel Common-room, when Denison entered it, was still tenanted by Whately, Arnold, Blanco White, and Hampden, as well as by Newman, Robert Wilberforce, and Hurrell Froude. It was uncongenial to a man of the free and careless temperament which Denison retained to the last; but the system which he adopted for himself often brought him into active and even uncompromising co-operation with the High Church leaders. The

appointment of Hampden first to the Regius Professorship and then to the Bishopric of Hereford, the judgment of the Privy Council in the Gorham case, the endowment of the Greek Professorship in the person of the late Master of Balliol, were all vehemently resisted by him.

But the most conspicuous instance of this was the famous trial in which the archdeacon was himself the defendant. It originated in a difference between himself, as examining chaplain, and Bishop Spencer, who was confirming and ordaining under a special commission in the place of Bishop Bagot, on the subject of the doctrine required from candidates for ordination. Denison had pressed the doctrine of the Real Presence in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper in a way which Bishop Spencer disapproved so strongly that, when the latter ascertained that he had no discretion in the matter but was simply obliged to ordain the candidates presented to him by the chaplain, he at once resigned his commission. Bishop Bagot's subsequent unwillingness to endorse the archdeacon's views induced Denison also to resign his chaplaincy. He indemnified himself by preaching two sermons on the same subject in the autumn of 1853 in Wells Cathedral. They were made the subject of a formal complaint to the bishop by the Rev. J. Ditcher, vicar of the neighbouring parish of South Brent. The bishop—then Lord Auckland—declined to promote legal proceedings, whereupon Mr. Ditcher applied to the archbishop. Archbishop Sumner issued a commission, but refused to proceed any further on its report. Mr. Ditcher, however, obtained a *mandamus* from the Queen's Bench, compelling him to go on. The archbishop accordingly held a court in Bath, which issued in a condemnation of Denison's doctrine, and in a sentence delivered by the assessor, Dr. Lushington, depriving him of his vicarage and archdeaconry. It was now Denison's turn to appeal, and the Court of the Province reversed the Bath judgment on a legal point raised by the ingenuity of Dr. Phillimore. Mr. Ditcher again appealed to the Final Court, but Dr. Phillimore's legal objection was sustained, and the long trial, which had lingered on for four years, came to an end, leaving the archdeacon the victor on a technical point of law, but evading any decision on the merits of the case. Thus he became accordingly an eager champion of the advanced school of

Ritualists, admitting in this one respect a solitary instance of change of mind from his earliest position.

In another series of subjects there was no change, but only a persistent and undeviating warfare. The "newer" or the "higher criticism" of the Bible encountered from the first his vehement opposition. "Essays and Reviews," Colenso's volumes on the Pentateuch, the consecration of Bishop Temple, were all in succession the subjects of his indignant protest. Nor did his general sympathy with the High Church party protect Canon Gore's "Lux Mundi" from his wrath.

He admitted and deplored his defeat all along the line, but in two matters he was eminently successful. He established at his own cost for his parishioners of East Brent a good system of water supply; and the whole Church of England is indebted to him for the origination of Harvest Homes. The estimation in which he was held in his own parish and diocese was strikingly exhibited in the Jubilee celebrations, which marked the fiftieth year of his ministry in the vicarage of East Brent. A ruined cross in his churchyard gave the opportunity for an enduring commemoration of the event. It was resolved to restore it, and the restored cross was solemnly dedicated by the bishop in the presence of a large concourse of parishioners, friends, and admirers.

A man who lived all his life "upon a diet of very strong and definite conclusions, religious and political," could not expect absolute sympathy, even from his own family; but, as he wrote, "with much difference there has been no alienation or loss of love." One of his brothers, in allusion to his absence of malice, described him as "St. George without the dragon"—a phrase which was slightly improved by Lord Lyttelton, with a further reference to his headlong impetuosity, into "St. George with the drag-off." He died on March 21 at East Brent, of which he had been vicar for upwards of fifty years.

Thomas Hughes.—Thomas Hughes, second son of Mr. John Hughes, of Donnington Priory, near Newbury, Berkshire, was born on October 20, 1823, at Uffington, in Berkshire (of which parish his grandfather was vicar). In 1830 he was sent to a school at Twyford, near Winchester, and at the end of the year 1833 he was removed to Rugby, then under the rule of Dr. Arnold. On leaving

Rugby he proceeded to Oriel College, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1845. He was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in January, 1848, and at the same time threw himself warmly into the co-operative movement, taking an active part in the foundation of the Working Men's College in conjunction with Rev. F. D. Maurice, J. M. Ludlow, and others. His first literary success was "Tom Brown's School Days" (1856), which dealt with Rugby as it existed in Dr. Arnold's time. It had a great and lasting success, and was followed (1861) by "Tom Brown at Oxford," but although widely read was not equally popular. In the interval he also published "The Scouring of the White Horse" (1858), giving a graphic account of life on the Berkshire Downs. Soon after this he began to take an active interest in politics, and entered Parliament as an advanced Liberal, being elected one of the members for Lambeth, which he represented from 1865 to 1868, when he was returned for the borough of Frome, for which he continued to sit till January, 1874. At the general election of February in that year he was nominated as a candidate for Marylebone, but he retired on the day before the poll was taken.

In 1869 he took silk, and thirteen years later he was appointed a County Court Judge. In 1870 he had made a

tour through the United States, and it was doubtless what he saw on this journey that induced him to embark on what turned out to be an unfortunate enterprise, in the shape of an agricultural settlement in Texas, for old public school-boys. One, if not two, of his sons went out there, and their father afterwards published a book entitled "Gone to Texas; Letters from Our Boys," which contained an account of their life and experiences in their distant home. Among the other works which came from his active and ready pen may be mentioned "Religio Laici," afterwards reprinted as "A Layman's Faith"; a "Memoir of a Brother," which was a very touching account of the life of his brother, George C. Hughes; a "Memoir of Daniel Macmillan," a "Life of Bishop Fraser," and "Livingstone." The influence of his friend, Charles Kingsley, was shown throughout his writings, and he constituted himself the lay champion of "muscular Christianity." He was, however, an ardent supporter of the Established Church, and his religious views consistently moderated his attitude towards the less elevating tendencies of sport. In 1847 Mr. Hughes married Anne Frances, daughter of Rev. Prebendary Ford, of Exeter. His death, which came unexpectedly, took place on March 22 at Brighton, where he had gone for change after a slight illness.

On the 1st, at Edinburgh, aged 55, **Edward Ross**, fourth son of Horatio Ross, of Rossie Castle. Educated at Edinburgh Academy and Trinity College, Cambridge; B.A., 1865; called to the Bar at the Inner Temple, 1869; Chairman of the Board of Lunacy, 1874-7, when he was appointed Visitor in Lunacy. In 1860, a private in 7th North York Volunteers, he was the first winner of the Queen's Prize at Wimbledon. On the 2nd, at Bradford, Yorkshire, aged 71, **Thomas Thornton Empsall**, a learned antiquary in connection with the Records of Bradford. President of Bradford Historical Society, 1874; author of several works on local history. On the 3rd, at Telcote, Devon, aged 70, **Vincent Pollexfen Calmady**, only son of Charles Biggs Calmady, of Langdon Court, Devon. Married, 1887, Isabel, daughter of E. R. C. Sheldon, M.P., of Brailes House, Warwickshire, and widow of Colonel F. Granville, of Wellesbourne Hall, Warwickshire. On the 4th, at Brookhill Hall, Co. Derby, aged 90, **William Sacheverell Coke**, second son of D'Ewes Coke, of Brookhill. Entered the Army and served in 39th Regiment. Married, first, 1845, Sarah Kift, daughter of Deane, of Cape of Good Hope; and second, 1870, Susan Annie, daughter of R. Miller, of Seaton, Devon. On the 4th, at Danby-on-Yore, Yorkshire, aged 72, **Simon Thomas Scrope**, one of the representatives of the family of the Lords Scrope, of Bolton. Educated at Stonyhurst College; an advanced Liberal. Married, 1857, Emily, daughter of Robert Berkeley, of Spetchley Park, Co. Worcester, and a claimant of the Earldom of Wilts. On the 6th, at Lanercost Priory, Cumberland, aged 69, **Rev. Henry Whitehead**. Educated at Lincoln College, Oxford; B.A., 1850 (Second Class Classics); appointed Curate of St. Luke's, Soho, 1852-4, during the cholera, and was the means of pointing out one of the chief sources of the epidemic; Vicar of Brampton, 1871-84, and of Lanercost since 1890; was a great antiquarian in the diocese of Carlisle. On the 7th, at East Grinstead, aged 47, **Hon. Arthur Gellibrand Hubbard**, fourth son of first Baron Addington. Private Secretary for Native Affairs in Cape Colony;

Accountant to the Basutoland Government. Married, 1881, Amy d'Estern, daughter of Charles Hugh Huntly, C.M.G., of Grahamstown, Cape of Good Hope. On the 7th, at Hinton Admiral, Hants, aged 68, **Sir George Eliot-Meyrick Tapps-Gervis-Meyrick**, third baronet. Assumed, 1876, the additional surname of Meyrick, his father having, in 1835, taken that of Gervis in addition to Tapps. Married, 1849, Fanny, daughter of Christopher Harland, of Ashbourne, Derbyshire. On the 9th, at Cincinnati, U.S.A., aged 84, **Henry Howe (Hutchinson)**, an eminent English actor. Born at Norwich; first appeared in London, 1834; formed part of the companies led by Macready, Charles Kean, Benjamin Webster, Buckstone, and finally was engaged by Henry Irving, with whose company he was travelling at the time of his death. On the 9th, at Zurich, aged 84, **Otto Firdolin Fritzsche**, Chief Librarian of the Canton. Born at Dobriklugk in Lower Lusatia; called to the University of Zurich, 1857, and afterwards became Professor of Ecclesiastical History; the author of numerous works and translations of patristic and humanist literature. On the 10th, at Sandiway, Cheshire, aged 60, from a fall in the hunting field, **Edmund Waldegrave Park-Yates**, eldest son of Rev. W. W. Park. Entered the Royal Dragoons, 1854; was master of North Cheshire fox-hounds; assumed his maternal name of Yates, 1856. Married, 1874, Clementina, daughter of Sir Alexander Dixie, fifteenth baronet. On the 12th, at Westcombe Park, Blackheath, aged 67, **Thomas Scrutton**, of the firm of Scrutton & Sons, shipowners. One of the leading members of the Congregationalist body, and a member of the first London School Board. On the 12th, at Spezia, aged 62, **Vice-Admiral Carlo Alberto Racchia**. Of Scottish descent from his mother; born at Turin and partly educated in England; entered the Italian Navy, 1848, and saw much service in China and elsewhere, and rose to the command of the Reserve Squadron; Senator, 1892, and Minister of Marine, 1892-3, in the Giolitti Cabinet. On the 13th, at Horsted Keynes, Sussex, aged 76, **George Crawshaw**. Born in London; educated at Cambridge; assumed the management of the Gateshead Ironworks; built the high-level bridge at Newcastle, Lendel Bridge at York, ninety bridges in the Caucasus, and fifteen lighthouses; a friend of the Free Traders, Chartists, and all suffering Nationalists; wrote on botany, verses, and love stories; introduced Turkish baths into England; connected as Mayor and otherwise with the Corporation of Gateshead for nearly fifty years. On the 14th, at Penzance, aged 67, **General Henry Peel Yates, C.B., R.A.**, son of Captain W. Wingfield Yates, and grandnephew of Sir Robert Peel, first baronet. Educated at Woolwich; entered the Royal Artillery, 1847; served with great distinction in the Crimea, 1854-5; Indian Mutiny, 1857-8. Married, 1862, Emma, daughter of Rev. M. Barnard, vicar of Ridge and Colney. On the 14th, at Tunbridge Wells, aged 79, **Mrs. Sophia Ashmead Bartlett**, daughter of John King Ashmead. Married, 1848, Ellis Bartlett, of Plymouth, Mass., U.S.A. On the 15th, at Ascot, aged 50, **Colonel Charles John Eden**, son of Rt. Rev. Robert Eden, Bishop of Moray and Primus of Scotland. Entered 42nd Highlanders, 1864; served in the Ashanti War, 1874; Egyptian War, 1882; and the Soudan Expedition, 1884-5. On the 15th, at Philbeach Gardens, Kensington, aged 86, **Georgina Frances Maurice**, daughter of Francis Hare Naylor, and half-sister to Julius Hare. Married, 1849, Rev. Frederick Denison Maurice. On the 16th, at Rome, aged 67, **Monsignor George Stanislaus Kostka de Stacpoole**, third Duc and Marquess de Stacpoole and Count de Stacpoole, son of Richard, first marquess, so created by Leo XII.; made duc by Gregory XVI. in 1830; born at the Abbaye de Fontanelle, Candebeac. Married, 1859, Maria, daughter of Thomas Dunn, of Bath House, Northumberland, and on her death in 1872 entered holy orders in the Church of Rome and was created Domestic Prelate, 1876, and Canon of Santa Maria in Trastevere, Rome. On the 16th, at Anerley, aged 73, **Staff-Commander Edward Wilde, R.N.** Ran away to sea and served as powder monkey on board H.M.S. *Edinburgh* at the siege of St. Jean d'Acre; afterwards did good service on the Coast, 1845-6, and on the West Coast of Africa, 1848-50; took part in the surveying expedition to Australia and Melanesia, 1852-61; and surveyed the coast of China, 1862-7. On the 17th, at Wallingford, aged 68, **Surgeon-General John Hendley, C.B., M.R.C.S.**; knighted, 1848: entered the Medical Department of the Army, 1851; saw much service in Western Africa, 1855; North-West India, 1863; Afghan War, 1878-9. On the 18th, at Darmstadt, aged 71, **Otto Roquette**. Born in the province of Posen; held posts as teacher of literature in Berlin and Dresden; appointed Professor of German Literature at Darmstadt, 1871; author of "*Waldmeister's Brautfahrt*" (1851), and various novels, dramatic tales, a history of German literature, and an autobiography. On the 19th, at Cleveland

Row, St. James', aged 75, **Lady Matheson**, Mary Jane, daughter of Michael Henry Perceval, of Quebec. Married, 1843, Sir James Matheson, first baronet, of Lews Castle, Stornoway. On the 19th, at York Street, Portman Square, aged 86, **George Richmond**, R.A. (retired), D.C.L., LL.D., son of an artist. Born at Brompton; student in the Royal Academy Schools, 1825-8, when he went to Paris, and in 1837 to Rome; was a popular and successful portrait painter, and declined many important posts offered to him; elected A.R.A., 1857; R.A., 1866-81, when he retired from active work. Married, 1831 (at Gretna Green), Julia, daughter of Charles Heathcote Tatham, an architect and author of "Classical Ornaments." On the 20th, at Stoke Gabriel, Devon, aged 67, **Rear-Admiral Richard Dawkins**. Entered the Royal Navy, 1841; served in the China War, 1842; Baltic, 1854; Black Sea, 1855, and China War, 1857; was in command of H.M.S. *Vanguard* when she was rammed in a fog by H.M.S. *Iron Duke* and foundered, 1875. On the 21st, at Mitchell Grove, Sussex, aged 69, **William Goater**, a noted trainer of racehorses. Born at Stockbridge, and for nearly forty years trained for some of the principal owners of racers. On the 22nd, at Baker Street, London, aged 56, **Lady Burton**, Isabella, fourth daughter of Henry Raymond Arundell. Married, 1861, after much opposition from her family, Richard F. Burton, the African traveller, and became the constant companion of his journeys and co-editor of his works. Was the author of the life of her husband. On the 22nd, at Nyassaland, aged 41, **John Buchanan**, C.M.G., the pioneer planter of British Central Africa, son of John Buchanan, of Muthill, Perthshire, where he was educated at the Parish School, and afterwards served three years' term of gardening at Drummond Gardens, Crieff, N.B. Joined the Church of Scotland Mission to Central Africa as Agriculturist, 1876; Acting Consul at Nyassa, 1888-91; British Vice-Consul, Nyassaland, 1892, and for Central Africa, 1893; started coffee, tea, sugar, and cinchona planting in the Shiré Highlands, 1881; created C.M.G., 1890. On the 23rd, at Wentworth, Woodhouse, aged 50, **Hon. William Thomas Wentworth-Fitzwilliam**, second son of Earl Fitzwilliam. Educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge; B.A., 1865; served in 10th Hussars and afterwards in the Royal Horse Guards; was many years Master of the Fitzwilliam Hounds. Married, 1876, Jessie Gordon Elgiva Mary, daughter of Hamilton Kinglake, M.D., of Taunton. On the 24th, at Fordel, Glenfarg, N.B., aged 75, **Major-General John Agmondisham Vesey Kirkland**, son of Sir John Kirkland, of Avoch, Ross-shire. Entered the Army, 1837; served in the Crimean Campaign, 1854-5, in Canada and the Mauritius. Married, first, 1840, Susan, daughter of Andrew Paterson, of Quebec; and second, 1873, Isabella, daughter of J. Hay-Mackenzie, W.S., of Edinburgh. On the 24th, at Rome, aged 43, **Rev. Andrew Trollope**, son of Arthur Trollope, of Lincoln. Educated at Clare College, Cambridge; B.A., 1874; Rector of Edith-Weston, 1885; an antiquary and archæologist; author of "An Inventory of the Church Plate of Lincolnshire" (1890). On the 26th, at Northam, Devon, aged 68, **Major-General William Richard Annesley**, son of James Annesley, H.B.M. Consul. Entered the Army, 1847; served with 97th Regiment in the Crimea, 1854, and the Indian Mutiny, 1857-9, with distinction. Married, 1862, Isabel, daughter of Rev. the Hon. James Norton, of Anningsley, Surrey. On the 26th, at Lyminge, aged 80, **Rev. Robert Charles Jenkins**. Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge; B.A., 1841; Rector of Lyminge, 1854; Hon. Canon of Canterbury, 1869; and Hon. Curator of Lambeth Library, 1881; author of "Life of Cardinal Julian" (1860), "The Jesuits in China" (1894), and several other works. On the 27th, at Buda Pesth, aged 62, **Michael Jakobson**, for some years a contributor to the *Golos*, a Russian newspaper, but subsequently acted as war correspondent in Bulgaria, and employed as a Russian spy. He quarrelled with his employers and published some curious revelations. On the 27th, at Stallington Hall, Stoke-upon-Trent, aged 88, **Sir Smith Child**, first baronet, son of John George Child, of Newfield, Staffordshire. Took a great interest in the improvement of the potteries, and contributed large sums to educational and philanthropic institutions; sat as a Conservative for North Staffordshire, 1851-9, and for West Staffordshire, 1868-74. Married, 1835, Sarah, daughter of Richard Clarke Hill, of Stallington Hall. On the 28th, at Hampstead, aged 68, **Mrs. Elizabeth Charles**, daughter of John Rundle, M.P., of Tavistock, Devon. Married, 1851, Andrew Paton Charles. Was a copious writer of religious stories. Her first work was "Light in Dark Places" (1850), and amongst those which followed in quick succession the most noteworthy were "Sketches of Hymns and Hymn Writers" (1858), "Chronicles of the Schönberg-Cotha Family" (1864), "Diary of Mrs. Kitty Trevelyan" (1865), "The Bertram Family" (1876), etc., etc. On the 28th,

at Welton, Yorkshire, aged 75, **William Henry Harrison-Broadley**, son of W. H. Harrison, of Ripon. Educated at Rugby and Brasenose College, Oxford; B.A., 1842; sat as a Conservative for the East Riding, 1868-85; Lieutenant-Colonel, Yorkshire Yeomanry Hussars. On the 28th, at Ufford, aged 68, **Colonel Campbell Clark**. Entered the H.E.I.C.S., 1844; joined 104th Bengal Fusiliers; served through the Punjab Campaign, 1848-9; Burma War, 1853, and the Indian Mutiny; attached to 88th Regiment, 1857-8, and was dangerously wounded at Cawnpore. On the 29th, at St. Petersburg, aged 38, **Dr. Sergius Alexandrowitch Berschadski**, Professor of the Imperial University and of the St. Petersburg Lyceum. Descended from a line of orthodox priests; devoted himself to researches into the history of the Jews in Eastern Europe; author of "The Lithuanian Jews" (1883), "Materials for the History of the Jews in Russia" (1892), etc., etc. On the 30th, at Dover, aged 65, **Major-General James Lawson**. Joined 59th Regiment, 1850; took part in the China War, 1857-8, and in the Afghan War, 1868-70, under Sir Donald Stewart, and was severely wounded. On the 31st, at Camberwell, aged 56, **Right Rev. Thomas Huband Gregg, D.D., M.D.**, son of Rev. F. Thornton Gregg, of Oldtown, Co. Longford.

APRIL.

Charilaos Tricoupis.—Charilaos Tricoupis, the son of the celebrated diplomatist, historian, and poet, was born at Nauplia in 1832, and studied law and letters in Paris and Athens. At the age of twenty he entered the diplomatic service as an attaché of the Greek Legation in London, and rose gradually until in 1863 he was Chargé d'Affaires, when he finally decided to enter political life. He accordingly entered the Chamber as Deputy for Missolonghi in 1865, and soon attracted the notice of his colleagues by his wide knowledge and dialectic powers, receiving in 1866 the portfolio of Foreign Affairs.

At that time the members of the Chamber grouped themselves around the most able political strategists, who hardly professed to have any political programmes, and who generally followed each other as President of the Council in rapid succession. In 1875 there were four such leaders, and, as the numbers of their followers were pretty evenly balanced, none of them could form a majority. A political deadlock was the result, and in this difficulty the young Tricoupis, who had not attached himself closely to any of the recognised chiefs, was called upon to form a Cabinet. He speedily found out that he was merely a sort of stopgap, and was compelled to resign after a few months. Office was again offered to him in 1877, when the whole Eastern question was opened by the Russo-Turkish war, and Greece prepared to claim her share of the Sick Man's inheritance. It was a moment when it was felt that party squabbles should give place to patriotic effort, and accordingly a patriotic

Ministry was formed without distinction of parties under the presidency of old Canaris, who had played a brilliant part in the war of independence. In this coalition Cabinet Tricoupis was intrusted with the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. Circumstances were too unpropitious for him to achieve any great success. Russia was championing the Slavs in opposition to the Greeks, and the Powers to whom the Greeks looked for support wished to maintain the Turkish Empire and to restrict the inevitable disturbances within the narrowest possible limits. Besides this, the Greeks were, in a military sense, totally unprepared, and before they were ready to act effectively on their own account the war was at an end. Meanwhile the Canaris Ministry had resigned and Tricoupis had been replaced by Delyannis.

Coumoundouros, who succeeded to office, attempted to better the instruction by reorganising the army and navy, but the Chamber declined to vote the necessary expenditure, and in 1880 he resigned. Tricoupis was his successor, but he remained in office only about four months, and had to retire in consequence of the failure of the Western Powers to induce Turkey to make a large territorial concession to the Greek kingdom. Two years later the renewed efforts of the Powers succeeded, and Greece obtained the province of Thessaly, but this did not satisfy Greek aspirations, and Coumoundouros was driven from office by an outburst of popular disappointment. Again he was succeeded by Tricoupis.

This time Tricoupis retained power

long enough to lay the foundations of an original policy. He recognised that if Greece was ever to play a great part in South-Eastern Europe she must have an army and a fleet. What had first to be done, however, was to develop the natural resources of the country. In accordance with this idea Tricoupis endeavoured to set the finances in order and to make preparations for the construction of roads, railways, harbours, steamship companies, and all the requirements of a modern civilised Power. Unfortunately, before he had proceeded very far in his work he was beaten on a subordinate financial question, and resigned. At the request of the King he resumed office; but he no longer felt his position in the Chamber secure, and in April, 1885, he was beaten at a general election.

In the following year he returned to office, and took up anew his great schemes of financial and economic regeneration, but the difficulties of his task had been increased by events which had taken place in the interval, and for which he was in no way responsible. The Bulgarians had effected the union of Eastern Roumelia with the Principality, and the Greeks, like the Servians, regarding the incident as a disturbance of the balance of power to their detriment, considered they had a right to demand compensation from Turkey. The Western Powers did not recognise this right, and compelled Greece to remain quiet, first by withdrawing their representatives and then by blockading the Piræus. The Greek Government had finally to submit, but before doing so it had very greatly increased the national debt by lavish expenditure on military preparations, and this fact naturally added to the difficulties with which Tricoupis had to contend. He set himself to work, however, courageously, and displayed an amount of financial dexterity which astonished even the most capable bankers among his compatriots. A certain number of roads and railways were constructed, but the result of his efforts as a whole was failure. All his calculations were based on the assumption that he could within a few years raise the value of the paper currency to par, and this assumption was never realised. He then endeavoured to make terms with the national creditors, but failed to come to an arrangement, and at the last general election (1895) he not only suffered a crushing defeat, but he himself was not returned to the Chamber.

He then retired from public life, and soon began to suffer seriously from the disease which proved fatal on April 11 at Cannes, where he was staying with his devoted and accomplished sister.

M. Léon Say.—Jean Baptiste Léon Say, the son of Horace Emile Say, and grandson of Jean Baptiste Say, the political economist, was born in Paris in 1826. He early devoted himself to the studies in which his grandfather and father took delight. M. Léon Say's hereditary bent for economic and financial questions was early apparent, and in 1848 he published a history of the Caisse d'Escompte, a leading financial institution. In 1865 he criticised Baron Haussmann's management of Paris finances, which M. Jules Ferry three years afterwards more pungently attacked, and in 1866 he translated Mr. Goschen's "Theory of Foreign Exchanges," prefixing an introduction. He was a frequent contributor to the *Débats*, the *Annuaire de l'Economie Politique*, and the *Journal des Economistes*, and he assisted his father in the inquiry undertaken at the instance of the Chamber of Commerce into the industries of Paris. In politics he first became known as a member of the Opposition to the Empire. In May, 1869, he was an unsuccessful candidate for Pontoise; but in February, 1871, he was returned both for the Seine and for Seine-et-Oise, electing to sit for the former. In the Assembly he voted for the treaty of peace and the repeal of the law banishing the Orleans family. In June, 1871, on Jules Ferry's resignation of the Prefecture of the Seine, Thiers appointed Léon Say, who remodelled Parisian administration, issued a successful loan, and first broached the idea of an underground railway. In October, 1871, together with M. Vautrain, president of the municipality, he was invited to London by the Lord Mayor and presented the Court of Aldermen with a gold medal commemorating English aid in re-victualling Paris after the siege. In December, 1872, Thiers chose him as Minister of Finance, and in the following month the first payment of the war indemnity was arranged by him. Retiring with Thiers in May, 1873, Say continued to act with the Moderate Republicans, and in February, 1874, he was the unsuccessful Republican candidate against M. Buffet for the Presidency of the Assembly. In March, 1875, he resumed the portfolio of Finance in the Buffet Cabinet, in

which he and Dufaure represented the Liberal element. On M. Buffet's retirement, Say, now a member of the newly-created Senate, retained his portfolio. After the crisis of 1876 he again held office under Dufaure till December, 1879. In 1882 he once more held office under M. de Freycinet. Tired of inactivity in the Senate he offered himself for the Chamber at Pau in 1889 and was there the steady and formidable opponent of Protectionist and Socialist fallacies. A member of the Academy of Political Sciences since 1874, he in 1886 succeeded About in the French Academy.

M. Say was a firm, if not enthusiastic, defender of the Republic; and he would have nothing to do with overtures made to him in its early days by some of his old friends to aid in bringing back a monarchy.

M. Say had visited this country early in life, and carried away from it pleasing recollections. For a few weeks in 1880 he was Ambassador in England. He returned in consequence of his election to the Presidency of the Senate—an office which he held twice. He was not very fortunate in negotiating with Mr. Gladstone the proposed new commercial treaty.

After the fall of the Freycinet Cabinet in 1882, M. Say took no further part in active political life, but he continued to exercise in the Senate, and through the columns of the *Débats* (of which he was principal proprietor), as president of the reunion of the Left Centre in the Senate, and as one of the founders of the Liberal Republican Union, a powerful influence. On economic subjects he wrote much. The list of his works and translations is long. His economic creed was clear and simple. Free trade was, in his view, only another name, he said, for justice. Of State Socialism he said on one occasion, when addressing an English audience, "We shall be compelled to fight it, like yourselves, with no lack of courage, with plenty of perseverance, and with much tact, for it filters in everywhere like a sluggish flood." He died as he had lived, a Protestant, in Paris on April 21, after a long and lingering illness which left his mind clear to the last.

Baron Hirsch.—Maurice de Hirsch, the son and grandson of the bankers to the Bavarian Court, was born at Munich in 1831, and the earlier years of his life were spent in his father's office, where he displayed little interest

in the business. The first evidence he gave of his financial abilities was connected with the construction of the Balkan railways, and his idea was to connect the Austrian State system with the Turkish lines. He failed to find support in Vienna owing to local jealousy, and thereupon turned to the Ottoman Government, from which he obtained the necessary concessions and aid, and finally realised an enormous fortune by the undertaking. He had, however, meanwhile become a domiciled Austrian subject, and had acquired a magnificent estate at Ogyalla, in Hungary, called St. Johann. The owner of a colossal fortune, of which the origin was not too scrupulously criticised, he devoted it to the pursuit of philanthropy, sport, and social success. His most remarkable undertaking in the first of these was his great Society for Jewish Colonisation registered in England in 1891, to which Baron Hirsch contributed 2,000,000*l.* sterling. Its principal object was "to assist and promote the emigration of Jews from any parts of Europe or Asia, and principally from countries in which they may for the time being be subjected to any special taxes or political or other disabilities, to any other parts of the world, and to form and establish colonies in various parts of North and South America and other countries for agricultural, commercial, and other purposes." The great work of the society was the transfer of Russian Jews to the Argentine. In the fertile States of Entre Rios, Santa Fé, and Buenos Ayres the association acquired (at the cost of more than 250,000*l.* sterling) 472,562 acres, nearly half of which was rented by colonists. In 1895 there were 1,222 families upon the land, with doctors, schoolmasters, and ministers of religion, and a steam flour mill was being erected. The colonies were subsidised in the first instance; but the older colonists were in 1895 almost entirely dispensing with subsidies. The society also founded colonies in Canada, and the 1895 crop was sufficient to insure the maintenance of the families of the colonists until they could complete their agricultural outfit, and make up the stock of animals required for the work. The Czar's Government (which had refused to accept Baron de Hirsch's benefactions for the education of the Jews in Russia itself) was prevailed upon to allow the selection and despatch of emigrants. Colonel Goldsmid and other able administrators super-

intended the work in the Argentine, which was not accomplished without some dissensions and difficulties. Baron de Hirsch did not retain his shares. He distributed them among the principal Jewish bodies in Europe, and shortly before his death by a further donation brought the holding of the Anglo-Jewish Association up to a total of more than 450,000*l.* He gave at least 600,000*l.* for education in Galicia, and made a grant of 10,000 florins a month each to committees in Vienna and Buda Pesth for the purpose of assisting artisans without distinction of faith, while similar committees in Lemberg and Cracow had a monthly allowance of 12,000 florins for a like purpose. He also made a donation of 400,000*l.* to the Alliance Israelite.

Nor were these his only contributions to charitable objects. His colours were well known upon the turf, but it was not equally well known that "he raced for the London hospitals." The gross proceeds of his racing, without any deduction for expenses, were distributed among the hospitals, and in 1892, when his filly *La Flèche* won the Oaks, the St. Leger, and the One Thousand Guineas, but greatly to his disappointment missed the Derby, his donations from this source alone approximated to 40,000*l.*

At his estates in Hungary and Norfolk, as well as at his houses in London, Paris, and Vienna, Baron Hirsch gathered round him the best as well as the smartest society. The Prince of Wales was on more than one occasion his guest at his country seats, and the members of most of the reigning families of Europe have partaken of his hospitality. His death, which was quite sudden, took place on April 21 at his seat at Ogyalla, near Coniora, in Hungary, and was due to a sudden failure in the heart's action.

Marquess of Bath.—John Alexander Thynne, fourth Marquess of Bath, Viscount Weymouth, Baron Thynne, and a baronet, was born in Westminster on March 1, 1831. He succeeded to the family honours in 1837, and was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. He married, in 1861, the Hon. Frances Isabella Catherine Vesey, eldest daughter of the third Viscount de Vesci. In 1858 he was despatched on a special mission to Lisbon to invest the King of Portugal with the Order of the Garter. On this occasion he received the Grand Cross of the Portuguese Order of the Tower

and Sword. He also went on a special mission to Vienna in 1867, when the Grand Cross of the Austrian Order of Leopold was conferred upon him. Lord Bath was appointed a Trustee of the British Museum in 1884. He was appointed Chairman of Quarter Sessions of the County of Wilts in 1880, and Lord Lieutenant of the County in 1889.

Lord Bath never played a prominent part in political life, but he devoted a considerable portion of his time and energies to county business, and was universally respected as a highly cultured, scrupulously honourable English gentleman of the best type. Though he took a keen interest in political questions, he had too much independence of judgment and too much conscientiousness to adapt himself to the requirements of party politics. This became apparent during the crisis of the Eastern question which culminated in the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-8. Though a staunch Conservative in home affairs, he could not profess to approve of the Philo-Turkish policy of Lord Beaconsfield, and sympathised rather with the views and scruples of Lord Derby and Lord Carnarvon. After the war he made a tour with Dr. Sandwith in the Balkan Peninsula and published some of his impressions in an interesting little volume on Bulgaria, in which he showed a reasonable sympathy with moderate Bulgarian aspirations. The expression of his views, however, was confined to a small circle of friends, and he seemed to avoid all reference to his book on Bulgaria as if it had been a youthful indiscretion. Always a shy man, his shyness seemed to increase rather than diminish with years, and towards the end of his life he became more and more inclined to take a gloomy view of things, especially of the political and economic future of England. His health had of late years obliged him to winter in the South, and this year he had passed the cold months at Biskra. He was returning by short stages, and had reached Venice, where on April 24 he succumbed to weakness.

Sir Henry Parkes, K.C.M.G.—Henry Parkes, "the Grand Old Man of Australia," was born at Stoneleigh, Warwickshire, in May, 1815, about a month before the battle of Waterloo. After working as a mechanic in Birmingham for some years, he emigrated to New South Wales in 1839. There he experienced many

vicissitudes, being employed successively on a farm, in an iron store, and in a foundry, and subsequently starting business as a toy-dealer in Sydney. In his "Fifty Years in the Making of Australian History," a volume chiefly autobiographical, published in 1892, Sir H. Parkes wrote of his arrival in Sydney: "I knew no single human creature in the strange new land; I had brought no letter of introduction to unlock any door to me; and in this state of absolute friendlessness I and my wife and child landed in Sydney, which great city I was thirteen years afterwards to represent in the Legislature. . . . For many weary days, following weary days, I searched in vain for suitable employment in Sydney. A severe drought had just passed over the country; the price of bread rose as high as 2s. 8d. for the four-pound loaf, and the other necessities of life were correspondingly dear. The first public gathering I attended was a meeting held in the market to raise subscriptions to establish a soup kitchen for the poor and destitute. For fully twelve months I could not muster sufficient fortitude to write to my friends in England of the prospect before me. Finding nothing better, I accepted service as a farm labourer at 30l. a year and a ration and a half, largely made up of rice. Under this engagement I worked for six months on the Regentville estate of Sir John Jamison, about thirty-six miles from Sydney, assisting to wash sheep in the Nepean, joining the reapers in the wheat field, and performing other manual labour on the property."

He soon became a prominent local politician with Progressist views, and, as such, aided in securing the return of Mr. Lowe (afterwards Lord Sherbrooke) to the Legislative Council in 1848. Shortly afterwards he started the *Empire*, a Liberal organ, which he conducted for seven years.

Mr. Parkes was in 1854 returned by the city of Sydney as member of the Legislative Council, in which assembly he soon distinguished himself. On the establishment of responsible Government he represented one of the constituencies of the capital in the Legislative Assembly for some years. His parliamentary career was interrupted in 1861, when he proceeded to England as Commissioner for Emigration, but shortly after his return to the colony in the following year he was re-elected member of the Assembly. Mr. Parkes first took ministerial office

in 1866, and six years later he became Premier of the colony, which position he retained for nearly three years. During his tenure of office he continued to uphold the principles of free trade, by which he had previously made himself prominent, and received the gold medal of the Cobden Club on this account. In March, 1877, he became Premier for the second time, and in the same year was created K.C.M.G. His third period of office commenced in 1878, when he formed a coalition Cabinet with Sir John Robertson, which lasted until 1883. During this period Sir Henry paid a visit to England and the United States on account of his health and was received with great distinction. Shortly after his return to the colony he was defeated in Parliament and consequently resigned. At the general election of 1887 he swept the country on the free trade question and then formed his fourth administration, which remained in power for two years. After an interval of about seven weeks only, Sir Henry Parkes entered upon his fifth and last premiership, which was made memorable by the efforts which he made to promote the complete political federation of the Australasian colonies. At his suggestion the conference of all the colonies was held in Melbourne in 1890, and Sir Henry presided at the Convention held in Sydney in the following year to frame the Federal Constitution. From that time his interest in the federation scheme remained unabated, and he did much to further the cause. He was appointed G.C.M.G. in 1888. Sir Henry resigned office in 1891, when he lost the support of the Labour party, and shortly afterwards retired from the leadership of his party.

Although almost entirely self-educated, Sir Henry was the most literary of Australasian Premiers, and was distinguished by the generous encouragement he gave to literary and artistic talent. Among the things he taught himself was the art of writing plain and homely verse. He had all along been a bit of a poet, and his poems were all more or less autobiographical.

Sir H. Parkes was thrice married—first, in 1835 (before his emigration to Australia), to Miss Clarinda Varney. This lady died in 1888, and in the following year he married Miss Eleanor Dixon, daughter of Mr. Thomas Dixon, of Wooler, Northumberland. The second Lady Parkes died in August,

1895, and in the following October the octogenarian statesman married Miss Julia Lynch, a member of his household, and a lady young enough to

be his granddaughter. He died at Sydney on April 26, after a short illness, from congestion of the lungs.

On the 1st, at Surrenden, Kent, aged 89, **Sir Edward Cholmeley Dering**, eighth baronet. Educated at Harrow and Christ Church, Oxford; sat as a Liberal for Wexford, 1830; Romney, 1831-2; and East Kent, 1852-7. Married, 1832, Hon. Jane Edwardes, daughter of second Lord Kensington. On the 1st, at Sutton, near Guildford, aged 71, **Hon. Sir William Stuart, K.C.M.G., C.B.**, second son of eleventh Lord Blantyre. Educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge; B.A., 1842; entered the Diplomatic Service, 1845; Secretary of Legation at Rio, 1858; Naples, 1859; Washington, 1861; and Secretary of Embassy at Constantinople, 1864, and St. Petersburg, 1866; Minister Plenipotentiary to the Argentine Confederation, 1868-72; Greece, 1872-77; and the Hague, 1877-88. Married, 1866, Georgina, daughter of Major-General G. Borlase Tremenhare. On the 2nd, at Bloomsbury Street, W.C., aged 49, **Sir William Henry Pearce, Bart., M.R.C.S., L.S.A.**, Medical Superintendent of Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum, 1880-95. On the 3rd, at Funchal, Madeira, aged 54, **William Edward Oates, F.R.G.S.**, of Gestingthorpe Hall, Essex. Spent many years in the Zulu country and South Africa, and afterwards in North America and Spitzbergen. Married, 1877, Caroline Annie, daughter of Joshua Buckton, of Meanwood, Leeds. On the 3rd, at Brighton, aged 64, **Hon. Slingsby Bethell, C.B.**, second son of first Baron Westbury. Educated at University College, Oxford; B.A., 1858; called to the Bar at the Middle Temple, 1857; Registrar of Exeter and London Courts of Bankruptcy, 1862-5, when he was appointed Reading Clerk to the House of Lords. Married, first, 1855, Caroline, daughter of W. J. Chaplin, M.P.; and second, 1888, Laura Beatrice, daughter of Rev. F. W. Maunsell, of Symondsburry, Dorset. On the 3rd, at Edinburgh, aged 60, **Colonel George W. Thompson**. Entered the Army and joined the Scots Guards; served in the Crimea, 1855; with the Canton Police Force, 1859-60; and in both the China Campaign and the Zulu War, 1888. On the 3rd, at Morre Abbey, Co. Kildare, aged 70, **Marchioness of Drogheda**, Hon. Mary Caroline Stuart Wortley, daughter of second Baron Wharncliffe. Married, 1847, third Marquess of Drogheda. On the 3rd, at Tottenham, aged 84, **Edward Ryley**. Began life as a sculptor, and for several years exhibited at the Royal Academy; subsequently practised as an actuary, and afterwards as an average adjuster. He was the ablest of Cardinal Wiseman's lay coadjutors in obtaining equal rights for Catholics in prisons, workhouses, and in the Army; supported the petition to the Lords in favour of equal rights to the Catholics; assisted Lord Mayo in his scheme of University Reform, and was a frequent contributor to *The Tablet*. On the 4th, at Melbourne, Australia, aged 40, **Sir George Baillie**, third baronet, eldest son of Thomas Baillie, of Toorak, Victoria. Educated at Cambridge. On the 5th, at Baltimore, U.S.A., aged 88, **Frederick Nicholls Crouch**, the composer of "Kathleen Mavourneen." Born in London; studied at the Academy of Music; for some time member of the Drury Lane orchestra; afterwards was musical critic of the *Metropolitan Magazine*, for which Mrs. Crawford wrote the words of "Kathleen Mavourneen," which Crouch set to music; emigrated to America, 1849, and fought on the side of the Confederates in the Civil War. On the 5th, at Hertford Street, Mayfair, aged 81, **Alfred Montgomery**, son of Sir Henry Conyngham Montgomery. Educated at Eton; a Commissioner of Inland Revenue, 1845-82. Married, 1842, Hon. Fanny Wyndham, daughter of first Lord Leconfield. On the 5th, at Cheltenham, aged 78, **Charles Wilson**. Born in Co. Down; emigrated at an early age to Australia, where he made a large fortune as an agriculturist; stood as a Liberal for Co. Antrim, 1874. On the 5th, at Naples, aged 65, **Mariano Semmola**, a distinguished physiologist and physician. Born at Naples; elected Professor of Therapeutics at Naples University, 1871; Member of the Senate; published, 1847-8, two treatises on "Animal Heat," which attracted much notice, and his great work, "The Old and New Medicine," in 1876. On the 6th, at Bologna, aged 86, **Count Agostino Mattei**, the founder of a system of medicine known as electro-homœopathy. Created a Count in 1847 by Pius IX. for his devotion to the Holy See, but abandoned politics for therapeutics, in which he claimed to have had remarkable success. On the 6th, at St. Germain, aged 58, **Ernest Ange Duez**, a distinguished painter. Pupil of Pils; first exhibited at the Salon, 1868. His "Trophy de St. Cuthbert" was purchased for the Luxemburg, 1878. He died whilst bicycling in the forest of St. Germain. On the 7th, in London, aged 77,

Thomas Ellison, of Barbot Hall, Rotherham, second son of Michael E. Ellison, of Sheffield. Educated at Oscott; called to the Bar at Gray's Inn, 1844; appointed County Court Judge, 1863. Married, 1853, Anne, daughter of John Dalton, of Moltram. On the 9th, at Paris, aged 76, **Anals Farguell**, a distinguished actress. Born at Toulouse, the daughter of an actor; studied at the Paris Conservatoire, 1831-4; made her *début* as a singer in 1835, but in the following year took to acting, and played with much success at the Palais Royal, Gymnase, and Vaudeville Theatres, creating several rôles in Sardou's and other dramatists' plays; finally retired, 1883. On the 10th, at Llandudno, aged 91, **William Sharp, M.D., F.R.S.**, of Horton House, Rugby. Born at Armley, near Leeds; educated at Wakefield Grammar School and at Westminster School; studied medicine at Guy's and St. Thomas' Hospitals; L.S.A., 1826; M.R.C.S., 1827; and afterwards in Paris; Surgeon to the Bradford Infirmary, 1829-43; and practised at Hull, 1843-7; appointed Reader in Natural Philosophy at Rugby, 1849; was an advocate of local museums and the author of many medical and other treatises. On the 11th, at Robernier (Var.), aged 50, **Henri Sauvaire**, a distinguished Orientalist and Arabic numismatist. French Consul in Egypt, 1866-70; author of several works on Arabic antiquities. On the 12th, at South Kensington, aged 54, **Colonel Sir William Assheton Eardley Wilmot**, third baronet, son of Sir John E. Eardley Wilmot, second baronet. Educated at Charterhouse and Balliol College, Oxford; entered the Army (5th Foot), 1861; D.A.A.G. (Ireland), 1882-5; London, 1885-6, when he was appointed Deputy Judge Advocate. Married, 1876, Mary, daughter of D. W. Russell, of Biggin. On the 13th, at Monterey, Mexico, aged 56, **Sir John Christian Schultz, K.C.M.G., K.D., LL.B.**, son of William Schultz. Born at Bergen in Norway, his mother having been Elizabeth Riley, of Bandon, Co. Cork; educated at Victoria College, Toronto; graduated in medicine, 1861, and settled at Fort Garry; forced by starvation to yield, he was imprisoned by the rebels in Riel's rebellion for defending the British flag, 1869-70, but escaped, and after many perilous adventures reached Ottawa; sat in the Dominion House of Commons, 1871-82, and in the Senate, 1882-8; Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, 1888-95. Married, 1867, Agnes Campbell, daughter of James Farquharson, of British Guiana. On the 15th, at Ottawa, Canada, aged 50, **Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick Charles Denison, C.M.G.**, second son of Colonel Denison, of Rusholme, Toronto. Served in the Canadian Militia; was Orderly Officer to Sir Garnet Wolseley in the Red River Expedition, 1870; and served through the Egyptian Campaign, 1884. Married, 1874, Julia, daughter of O. T. Maiklem, of Niagara Falls, Ontario. On the 16th, at Brighton, aged 52, **Arthur Cecil Blunt**, an accomplished actor, the son of a solicitor, and originally intended for the Army. Joined Mr. German Reed's company, 1869, and afterwards took to the regular stage, where he created a number of parts in Mr. Pinero's and other comedies. On the 16th, at Overhall, Essex, aged 67, **Major-General Andrew Campbell Knox Lock**, second son of Captain Campbell Lock, R.N. Entered the Army, 1847; served with 50th Regiment in the Crimean Campaign, 1854-5; New Zealand War, 1864-6. On the 16th, at Stansted House, Godstone, aged 69, **Henry Gerard Hoare**. On the 18th, at Addington Manor, aged 79, **Dowager Lady Addington**, Maria Margaret, daughter of eighth Lord Napier, of Ettrick. Married, 1837, John G. Hubbard, created Lord Addington, 1887. On the 18th, at Newton Abbot, Devon, aged 70, **Admiral W. Cornish-Bowden**, son of William Bowden, Paymaster-in-Chief to the Navy. Entered Royal Navy, 1840; present at the siege of Acre, 1840; served during the Chinese War, 1841-2; Crimean War, 1854-5, when he was wounded; and afterwards on the East Indian station. Married, 1861, Elizabeth Annie, daughter of James Cornish, of Blackhall, Devon. On the 18th, at Bartlow House, Cambridgeshire, aged 77, **Colonel George Augustus Filmer Sullivan** (the O'Sullivan More), son of G. J. Sullivan, of Wilmington, Isle of Wight. Served with the Scots Greys in the Crimea, 1854-5, and afterwards in 5th Royal Irish Lancers. Married, 1842, Emily Anne, daughter of Richard Prince, of Walberton House, Sussex. On the 20th, at Copenhagen, aged 64, **Henrich R. Ingerslev**, Danish Minister of Public Works. Elected a member of the Folkething at an early age, and distinguished himself by his efforts to improve the Danish railway system; held the office of Home Secretary in the Estrup Cabinet from 1885 to 1894, throughout the struggle with the Radical party; was Minister of Public Works from 1894. On the 20th, at Truro, aged 80, **Rev. Richard Farquhar Wise**, son of Richard Wise, M.D., of Camborne. Studied medicine at Dublin University, but afterwards entered at St. John's College, Cambridge; B.A., 1837; Rector of Ladock, Cornwall, 1846-94; Hon. Canon of St. Columba in Truro Cathedral, 1879; Rural Dean of Powder, 1879-84;

a great benefactor to the Diocese and of the Cathedral of Truro. On the 21st, at Kiel, aged 63, **Carl N. A. Krüger**. Born at Marienburg, West Prussia; educated at Elbing, Wittenberg, and Berlin; appointed Assistant in Observatory, 1853, and afterwards at Bonn; Professor of Astronomy and Director of the Observatory at Helsingfors, 1862-76; at Gotha, 1876-86, when he was transferred to Kiel. Married, 1856, daughter of Professor Argelander, of Bonn. On the 21st, at Hankow, China, aged 63, **Rev. David Hill**. Born at York; appointed, 1863, by the Wesleyan Conference to the Mission in Central China, which he conducted with marked success. On the 22nd, at Portobello, N.B., aged 54, **Alexander Allardyce**. Born at Rhynie, Aberdeenshire; educated at the University of Aberdeen; went to India as a journalist, and afterwards to Ceylon, and on his return wrote several successful novels, a life of Admiral Keith, and other biographical works, and edited the letters of C. K. Sharpe. On the 23rd, at Barr's Wood, Groombridge, Kent, aged 54, **Viscountess Clifden**, Eliza Horatia Frederica, daughter of F. C. W. Seymour. Married, first, 1861, third Viscount Clifden; and second, 1875, Colonel Sir Walter G. Stirling, third baronet. Lady of the Bedchamber in Ordinary, 1867-72, when she became an Extra Lady, and received the Order of Victoria and Albert. On the 24th, at Bickley, Kent, aged 73, **Lady Mary Frances Catherine Fielding**, daughter of seventh Earl of Denbigh, and twin sister of eighth earl. Devoted herself to works of philanthropy, especially to those connected with the welfare of ladies of small means. On the 25th, at Lower Berkeley Street, W., aged 73, **Charles Watkins-Williams-Wynn**, only surviving son of Right Hon. C. Watkins-Williams-Wynn, of Coed-y-Maen, Welshpool. Educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford; B.A., 1843; called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, 1846; sat as a Conservative for Montgomeryshire, 1862-80. Married, 1853, Lady Annora C., daughter of second Earl Manvers. On the 26th, at Pitlochry, N.B., aged 84, **Inspector-General Arthur Anderson, M.D., C.B.**, son of A. Anderson, of Dee Bank, Aberdeen. Educated at Aberdeen and Edinburgh Universities; M.D., 1835; entered the Army Medical Service, 1853; served in the Crimean Campaign, 1854-5, and China Campaign, 1857. Married, first, 1840, Elizabeth, daughter of Colonel Rensy; and second, 1853, Julianna Margaret, daughter of Colonel Renny. On the 27th, at Paris, aged 70, **Ferdinand Duval**, a distinguished Republican politician who supported M. Thiers during the Empire. Appointed Prefect of the Gironde, 1871-7, and of the Seine, 1877-9; for some time editor of the *Moniteur*. On the 28th, at Berlin, aged 61, **Heinrich von Treitschke**, a historiographer of the Prussian State, son of a Lieutenant-General in the Saxon Service. Born at Dresden; educated successively at the Universities of Bonn, Leipzig, Tübingen and Heidelberg; identified himself with the National party; published a collection of "Songs of the Fatherland" (1856); held Chair of History at the University of Freiburg, 1863-6, when he went to Berlin and became editor of the *Preussische Jahrbücher*; Professor of History at Heidelberg, 1867-74; at Berlin, 1874-96; sat as a National Liberal in the Reichstag for Kreuznach, 1871-88; author of the "History of Germany in the Nineteenth Century" and several other works. On the 28th, at Paris, aged 89, **Pierre Blance**, father of the French Chamber of Deputies. Born at Beaufort, Savoy, and a member of the Sardinian Parliament until the annexation of Savoy to France; first elected a French Deputy, 1876. On the 29th, at Blackheath, aged 84, **William Lockhart, F.R.C.S.** Educated at Edinburgh University; appointed first Medical Missionary to China, 1838, by the London Missionary Society; after several attempts settled at Shanghai, 1843-57, and subsequently was sent (1861) to Peking; author of several works on China. Married, 1841, Catherine Parkes, sister of Sir Henry Parkes, H.B.M. Minister at China and Japan. On the 29th, at Hampton Court, aged 83, **Lady Macgregor**, Mary Charlotte, youngest daughter of Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas Hardy, G.C.B. (Nelson's friend and comrade). Married, 1833, Sir John Atholl Murray Macgregor, of Macgregor, third baronet. On the 30th, at Munich, aged 65, **Friedrich H. von Geffken**, an eminent scholar and jurist. Born at Hamburg and educated at Bonn and Göttingen; appointed Private Secretary to the Hanse Towns' Legation in Paris, 1854-6; Chargé d'Affaires for Hamburg in Berlin, 1856-68; Hanseatic Minister in London, 1866-8; Professor of International Law at Strasburg, 1872-81. He was a thorough-going opponent of Prince Bismarck, whose enmity he aroused, and was forced to quit Hamburg in 1880 for Munich. On the 30th, at The Barn, Kincardineshire, aged 92, **Lieutenant-Colonel William M'Inroy**, second son of J. M'Inroy, of Lude, Co. Perth. Entered 69th Regiment, 1822. Married, 1839, Harriet, daughter of E. Isaac, of Boughton, Worcester-shire.

MAY.

Archduke Karl Ludwig.—The Archduke Karl Ludwig of Austria, brother of the Emperor Francis Joseph, was born on July 30, 1833. At the age of twenty he went to Galicia in order to be there initiated into the administration of a great province. Two years later, in 1855, he was nominated Governor of the Tyrol. He was received with much enthusiasm by the inhabitants, who are distinguished among the peoples of the monarchy for their strong patriotism. On November 4, 1856, he married Princess Margaret, daughter of King John of Saxony. This union, however, was not of long duration, his young wife dying suddenly after a few days' illness while on a visit to Italy. Deeply affected by his loss, the Archduke retired for a time from public life, and went to Rome, where he made a long stay. He afterwards resumed the position of Governor at Innsbrück, and displayed great energy in promoting the interests of the country, particularly in the preparations for national defence during the war of 1859. After the cessation of hostilities he resigned the Governorship.

In October, 1862, the Archduke married Princess Marie Annunciata, of Bourbon-Sicily, with whom he took up his residence at Gratz, in Styria.

In May, 1871, he had the misfortune to lose his second wife. Two years later he married the Princess Maria Theresa of Braganza. He was the patron of the great exhibition held in Vienna in 1873. From that time forward he gradually assumed the task of representing his imperial brother at all industrial and art shows, and thereby earned for himself the popular designation of "The Exhibition Arch-

duke." He always manifested a keen interest in the development of national industries. He frequented industrial establishments, informed himself as to the details of the work of manufacture and the progress of trade, and attended numerous conferences held by the industrial associations of Lower Austria. The Archduke also stimulated native art. He accepted the position of protector of the more prominent artists, and granted annual prizes for the best pictures and works of sculpture. The personal interest thus manifested by the Emperor's brother in the progress of arts and crafts contributed at the same time to the encouragement of artists and artisans, and to the popularity of the Archduke himself, who was to be seen almost as frequently at public gatherings and in the studios and schools as at Court festivities and reunions of the aristocracy.

After the death of the Crown Prince Rudolph the right of succession passed to the Archduke and his sons. As heir to the throne it was necessary that he should have a residence in Hungary. He accordingly purchased a château there, where he was accustomed to pass a couple of weeks in the autumn.

The Archduke Karl Ludwig had two children by his third marriage. He was more than irreproachable as a husband and father. Indeed, he may be regarded as a model of the domestic virtues. His affability and kindness secured for him the warm regard of all those who were brought into personal relations with him, but his sympathies were chiefly with those who, like himself, were devoted to the Church and Clerical party. He died on May 19, at Vienna, after a short illness.

On the 1st, at St. Dominic's Priory, Hampstead, aged 61, **Rev. the Hon. Paul Stapleton**, youngest son of Thomas Stapleton, of Carlton Towers, Yorkshire. Entered the Order of St. Dominic; educated at Hinckley, Louvain University, and at the Santa Sabina College at Rome; appointed Superior of the Dominican House in Newcastle-on-Tyne, 1866, and elected Prior of the House at Haverstock Hill, 1874; worked for a long time in the poorer streets of Leicester and other towns. The dormant barony of Beaumont was revived in 1840 in favour of his elder brother. On the 1st, at Sunninghill, aged 80, **Charles George Barnett**, younger son of G. H. Barnett, of Glympton Park, Oxford. Educated at Eton, 1829-34; became partner in Barnett, Hare & Co.'s Bank. Married, 1847, Marianne J., daughter of Edward St. John Mildmay, of Dogmersfield, Hants. On the 3rd, at Campden Hill, Kensington, aged 65, **Alfred William Hunt, R.W.S.** Born at Liverpool; educated at Collegiate School there and at Christ Church College, Oxford; Newdigate Prize, 1851; B.A., Second Class Classics, 1852; Fellow of Christ Church College, 1854; first exhibited at the Water-colour Society, 1846, and at the Royal Academy, 1856; elected an Associate, R.W.S., 1862; Fellow, 1864. Married, 1865, Margaret, daughter of Rev. Canon Raine, of Durham. On the 4th,

at Brook Street, W., aged 91, **Dowager Countess Fortescue**, Elizabeth, daughter of Piers Geale, of Dublin. Married, first, Sir Marcus Somerville, fourth baronet; and second, 1841, second Earl Fortescue. On the 5th, at St. Petersburg, aged 76, **General Kolpakovsky**. Took part in the Russian operations in Hungary, 1848-9; appointed to command the penal settlement of Berezov in the Caucasus, 1852-8; Commander of Fort Uzun-Agatch, and as such defeated the Khan of Khokand; for many years Governor-General of Turkestan and Western Siberia. On the 5th, at Gracechurch Street, aged 55, **Colonel John Thomas North**, "the Nitrate King," son of an artisan. Born in Leeds; apprenticed to an engineer; sent at an early age to Peru, where he made a considerable fortune in the course of twenty years. On his return to England in 1880 he brought out a number of companies connected with the nitrate district of Tarapaca, which had a great success; built a fine house at Eltham, Kent, and started a racing stable, and also took an interest in coursing; stood for West Leeds as a Conservative against Mr. Herbert Gladstone in 1895, and was defeated by ninety-six votes on a poll of over 12,000. Married, 1862, Jane, daughter of John Woodhead, of Leeds. On the 5th, at Foxwold, Kent, aged 51, **Horatio Noble Pym**, son of Rev. W. Wollaston Pym, of Willian, Herts. Admitted as a solicitor, 1867; was closely mixed up with literary men of all ranks; edited the "Memoirs of Caroline Fox," and was the author of several privately printed books. Married, 1878, Jane Hannah, daughter of H. C. Backhouse. On the 5th, at London, aged 46, **Sir Maurice Duff Gordon**, fourth baronet. Educated at Eton; became a member of the London Stock Exchange. Married, first, 1872, Fanny, daughter of Henry Waterton, and widow of Seymour Ball Hughes; and second, 1894, Sophie Mary, daughter of Charles Steer, Judge of the High Court, Calcutta. On the 6th, at Brussels, aged 87, **Constantin Héger**, Charlotte Brontë's Brussels schoolmaster (Rue d'Isabelle), and the prototype of Paul Emmanuel in "Villette." Professor of Latin at the Athénée of Brussels, 1840-92. On the 6th, at Sfaks, Tunis, aged 36, **Charles Sherard Leach, M.D.**, son of Surgeon-Major Leach, H.E.I.C.S. Born at Rangoon; studied and graduated at Edinburgh; Resident Surgeon at Children's Hospital, Birmingham; joined an American Mission, 1889, and afterwards became member of North African Mission. Married, 1889, daughter of Mr. Kean, of Rothesay, N.B., matron in charge of the Sailors' Rest at Marseilles. Both murdered, with a son aged four, by natives. On the 7th, at Beaminster, Dorset, aged 57, **Vice-Admiral Sir Robert O'Brien Fitzroy, K.C.B.**, son of Vice-Admiral Robert Fitzroy, Chief of the Meteorological Society. Entered the Navy, 1853; served in the Baltic, 1854-5; China War, 1857-8; capture of the Peiho Forts, 1860; the Egyptian War, 1882; was Admiral-Superintendent of Naval Reserves, 1891-4; and held important command in the Naval Manœuvres, 1888-95. On the 7th, at Rome, aged 60, **Cardinal Luigi Galimberti**. Born at Rome, where he passed the greater part of his life; created Cardinal Priest, 1893. On the 7th, at Teignmouth, aged 89, **Rev. George Andrew Jacob, D.D.** Educated at Worcester College; First Class *Lit. Hum.*, 1829; Headmaster of King Edward's School, Bromsgrove, 1832-43; Principal of the Collegiate School, Sheffield, 1843-53; Headmaster of Christ's Hospital, 1853-68. On the 8th, at Simla, aged 39, **Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Herbert Mason, C.B., R.E.**, fourth son of Lewis J. Martin Mason. Entered the Royal Engineers, 1874; served in the Afghan War, 1878-80; Nile Expedition, 1884-5; operations on the Upper Nile, 1885-6; Hozara Expedition, 1888; Miranzia Expedition, 1891-2; and Waizirestan Field Force, 1894-5. Married, 1893, Eva, daughter of Sir Robert Biddulph, K.C.B. On the 8th, at Braemore, Hants, aged 64, **Vice-Admiral William Henry Cuming**, son of W. B. Cuming, of Plymouth. Entered the Royal Navy, 1847; served in the New Zealand War and off the coast of China, 1848-9; in the Baltic, 1854-5; and in the Japanese War, 1864. Married, first, 1871, Marion, daughter of T. Harby, of Stratford; and second, 1876, May, daughter of W. P. Beech, of Stifford, Essex. On the 8th, at Bath, aged 81, **Sir David Taylor**, son of David Taylor, of Perth. Settled at Belfast, where he established a large business; three times Mayor of Belfast; Chairman of the Antrim Poor Law Board, 1862-95. Married, 1842, Jessie, daughter of John Arnott, of Auchtermuchty, N.B. On the 10th, at Rushington Manor, Hants, aged 84, **Colonel Edward Birch-Reynardson, C.B.**, son of General Thomas Birch-Reynardson. Entered the Army, 1830; served with the Grenadier Guards in the Crimea, 1854-5, and commanded that regiment at Inkermann. Married, 1849, Emily, daughter of Vere Fane, of Little Ponton, Lincolnshire. On the 10th, at New York, aged 71, **William Young**, of Stanhill Court, Charlwood, Surrey, son of John Young, of Rowmore, N.B. A prominent member of Lloyds; a practical philanthropist, and especially interested in

education; author of a "History of Dulwich College" (1889). On the 11th, at Mentone, aged 75, **Henri Cernuschi**. Born at Milan; graduated at the University of Pavia, 1842; took part in the rising at Milan, 1848, and at Rome, 1849; elected member of the Constituent Assembly; on the capitulation of Rome to the French he was tried by court martial and escaped; came to Paris and started as a banker and newspaper proprietor; expelled in 1870 for distributing illegal voting papers; returned after the fall of the Emperor and was naturalised as a French citizen, and from 1878 became an ardent advocate of bimetallism. On the 12th, at Paris, aged 78, **Professor Germain Sée**. Born at Ribeauville; educated at Metz and Paris; graduated as Doctor of Medicine, 1846; succeeded Trousseau as Professor of Therapeutics, 1886, and Clinical Professor at the Charité, 1867; signed the certificate, dated July 1, 1870, declaring the Emperor Napoleon III. to be suffering from stone. On the 14th, at Paris, aged 74, **Evariste Vital Luminais**, a distinguished painter, son of a Deputy to the Assembly of 1848. Born at Nantes; studied under L. Coquiet and Troyon; first exhibited at the Salon, 1843; chose subjects from old French and Breton history. On the 14th, at Birmingham, aged 76, **Rev. Arthur O'Neill**, the last of the Chartist prisoners. Born at Chelmsford; educated at Malta and Glasgow University for the medical profession; exchanged to the theological course, 1838; sent as a delegate to Birmingham to welcome the Chartist prisoners liberated from Warwick Gaol, 1840, and was chosen Pastor of the Baptist Chapel there; arrested for sedition at Dudley, 1842, and committed to Stafford Prison for twelve months; subsequently Pastor of Zion Chapel, Birmingham, 1843-84. On the 16th, at Peterhead, N.B., aged 66, **Captain David Gray**, a whaler and intrepid navigator of the Arctic and Antarctic Seas, son of Captain John Gray, with whom he made his first whaling voyage in 1844, and five years later was in command of a ship. On the 17th, at Wellington, New Zealand, aged 55, **Hon. Sir Patrick Alphonsus Buckley, K.C.M.G.**, second son of C. Buckley, of Castle Townsend, Co. Cork. Educated at Cork, Paris, and Louvain; employed, 1870, to enlist recruits in Belgium for the Irish Papal Brigade; emigrated to Queensland and afterwards to New Zealand, where he entered the last Provincial Council as Provincial Solicitor, 1876; entered the Legislative Council, 1878; was Colonial Secretary, 1884-7; Attorney-General, 1891-2; and Attorney-General and Colonial Secretary, 1892-5, when he was appointed Judge of the New Zealand Supreme Court. Married Alice, daughter of Sir William Fitzherbert, K.C.M.G. On the 17th, at Berlin, aged 83, **Otto von Camphausen**. Studied at Bonn, Heidelberg, Munich, and Berlin; Assessor in the Ministry of Finance, 1837-45, and Counsellor, 1845-9, when he was elected a member of the Prussian Diet; appointed Minister of Finance, 1869-78, when he retired from public life in consequence of a disagreement with Prince Bismarck. On the 19th, at Leipzig, aged 79, **Julius Stronn**, a popular lyrical and religious poet. Born at Köstritz in Reuss; studied theology at Jena, 1837-41, and was tutor to Prince Heinrich XIV. of Reuss; Pastor of Göslitz, 1851-7, and of Köstritz, 1857-85; author of "Fromme Lieder," "Kinder Lieder," "Lyrische Gedichte," etc. On the 20th, at York, aged 65, **Rev. James Raine, D.C.L.**, Chancellor and Canon of York, son of Rev. Dr. Raine, of Durham. Graduated at Durham University, 1851; Vicar of All Saints', Padermest, 1868; Canon Residentiary, 1888; Secretary of the Southey Society since its formation, and a well-known antiquary. On the 20th, at Frankfurt-on-the-Main, aged 76, **Madame Schumann**, a highly gifted pianist, Clara Wieck, daughter of Friedrich Wieck, a pianoforte player. Born at Leipzig; made her first appearance at the age of nine years, and at once attracted notice. Married, 1840, Robert Schumann, the great composer, of whose works she became the most distinguished interpreter. On the 20th, at Worthenbury Rectory, Wrexham, aged 73, **Rev. Sir Theophilus Gresley Henry Puleston**, fourth baronet, second son of second baronet. Educated at Brasenose College, Oxford; B.A., 1845; Rector of Worthenbury, 1848. Married, first, 1849, Christian Ann Stareshmore, daughter of Rev. W. S. Marvin, Vicar of Shawbury; and second, 1882, Anne Margaret, daughter of David Bannerman, of Mansfield, Whalley Range. On the 21st, at Lewisham, aged 76, **Henry Herzer**, a musical critic and librettist, and founder and first President of the Blackheath Conservatoire of Music. On the 21st, at Harrow-on-the-Hill, aged 50, **Rev. Albert Enhill Evans**, third son of Robert Evans, D.C.L. Educated at St. Mary's Hall; B.A., 1866; Secretary of the South American Missionary Society, 1870-5; and Rector of Kirk Hallam, Derbyshire, 1875-90; author of "The Curse of Immortality," and other poems. On the 22nd, at Belgrave Square, aged 50, **Lady Cotterell**, Hon. Katherine Margaret, daughter of first Lord Airey, G.C.B. Married, 1865, Sir Geers H. Cotterell, third baronet. On the 23rd, at Madison, Wisconsin, U.S.A., aged 64, **General Lucius Fairchild**. Born at Kent, Ohio;

started for San Francisco, 1849, and worked as a labourer and miner at the gold-fields; returned, 1855, and admitted to the Bar, 1860; served through the Civil War with distinction, and took a leading part in the battles of Antietam and Gettysburg; Secretary of State and Governor of Wisconsin, 1868-72; U.S. Consul at Liverpool, 1872-8; Consul-General at Paris, 1878-80; and Minister at Madrid, 1880-2. On the 23rd, at New York, aged 70, **George Munro**, publisher and philanthropist. Born at Nova Scotia; teacher of mathematics in the Free Church College, Halifax, 1850-6; began the *Fireside Companion* in 1867, and issued many English works to American readers; endowed several professorships in Dalhousie College, Halifax, and at New York University. On the 24th, at Tunbridge Wells, aged 79, **Edward Armitage**, R.A. (retired). Born in London; educated in France and Germany, and studied under Paul Delaroche, and assisted in the decoration of the hemicycle of the Ecole de Beaux Arts, 1838-40; exhibited at the Royal Academy from 1840; visited the Crimea during the war with Russia and painted pictures of the battles of Balaclava and Inkermann; elected Associate, 1867, and Academician, 1872. On the 25th, at Chambéry, Savoy, aged 87, **General Menabrea**, Luigi Fred., Comte Menabrea, Marchese de Val Dora. Born at Chambéry; entered the Sardinian Artillery; elected member of the Academy of Science at Turin, 1839; ennobled, 1843; wrote for L. Valerio's journal, *La Concordia*, 1848; elected to the Piedmontese Assembly, 1849, for St. Jean de Maurienne; commanded the Engineers in the campaign, 1859-60; directed the siege operations at Ancona, Capua, and Gaeta, 1860-1; Minister of Marine in Ricasoli's Cabinet, 1861-2, and of Public Works, 1862-4; negotiated the Treaty of Peace at Vienna, 1866; Prime Minister with the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, 1867-9; Ambassador at Vienna, 1870-1; created Marchese de Val Dora, 1875; Ambassador in London, 1876-82, and at Paris, 1882-94. On the 25th, at Witley Heights, Surrey, aged 69, **Dowager Countess of Enniskillen**, Mary Emma, daughter of sixth Viscount Midleton. Married, 1865, third Earl of Enniskillen. On the 25th, at Caversham Priory, Reading, aged 74, **Joseph Henry Wilson**, son of J. Wilson, of Lower Orton, Oxford. Educated at Exeter College, Oxford; B.A., 1842; called to the Bar at the Middle Temple, 1845; Chairman of the Reading School Board since its formation; represented the Diocese of Oxford in the House of Laymen. On the 25th, at Gradisca, aged 78, **Field-Marshal Baron Franz Kuhn von Kuhnfeld**. Took a prominent part in the Austrian campaigns from 1848 to 1866; Minister of War, 1868-74, during which time he re-armed the Austro-Hungarian Army, and introduced many important reforms. On the 26th, at Walton-on-Thames, aged 84, **Lady Watkin**, Ann Little, daughter of William Little. Married, first, 1835, Herbert Ingram, founder of the *Illustrated London News*; and second, 1892, Sir Edward Watkin, M.P. On the 27th, at Luton Hoo, Bedfordshire, aged 67, **Christian Frederick de Falke**. Danish Minister in England, 1880-90. Married, 1883, Eleanor Lucy, daughter of Thomas Hawkes, M.P., and widow of Hon. H. Dudley Ward and of J. Gerard Leigh, of Luton Hoo. On the 28th, at Watford, aged 85, **Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Samuel Capell**, third son of Hon. the Rev. William R. Capell, Vicar of Watford. Entered the Bengal Army, 1829; served in the Afghan Campaign, 1848; retired, 1855. Married, 1835, Elizabeth, daughter of James Binnie, of Demerara. On the 29th, at Grosvenor Street, aged 67, **Sir John Russell Reynolds, Bart., M.D., F.R.S.**, son of Rev. John Reynolds, Congregationalist. Born at Romsey, Hants; educated at University College, London; M.B., 1851; M.D., 1853; F.R.C.P., 1859; first practised in Leeds, but removed to London, and after holding various hospital appointments was elected Professor of Medicine in University College Hospital, 1865; President of the Royal College of Physicians, 1893; editor of "A System of Medicine" (1866-78), and author of various medical works; created a baronet, 1895. On the 29th, at Birking Holme, Bridlington Quay, aged 78, **Rev. Henry Frederick Barnes-Lawrence**, Canon of York. Educated at Clare College, Cambridge; B.A., 1841; Rector of Bridlington, 1849-74, and of Birkin, Ferrybride, 1874-93; took a leading part in the restoration of Bridlington Priory Church. On the 30th, at Oxford, aged 87, **Rev. John Fisher, D.D.**, senior resident graduate of the University of Oxford, son of Rev. John Fisher, of Wavendon, Buckinghamshire. Educated at Eton and Brasenose College, Oxford; B.A., 1831; "Buckinghamshire" Fellow of Magdalen, 1836. On the 30th, at Buckland, Herefordshire, aged 69, **Major Edward Nicholas Heygate, R.E.**, third son of Sir William Heygate, first baronet. Educated at Woolwich Academy; passed into the Royal Engineers, 1845. After leaving the Army he devoted himself to breeding horses and Herefordshire cattle. Married, 1857, Mary, daughter of John L. Hammond, of Over Dimsdale Hall, Co. York.

JUNE.

Jules Simon.—Jules Simon, whose real name was Jules François Suisse, was born at L'Orient on December 27, 1814. He was educated at L'Orient and at Vannes, whence he went as a deputy teacher to the College at Rennes, before entering the Normal School in 1833. In 1836 he became an Associate in philosophy, and went as a deputy teacher to the Lycée of Caen, and a year later to Versailles. He was one of the most brilliant pupils of Victor Cousin, who called him to Paris, where he took the chair temporarily of the *Conférence* of the History of Philosophy, of which he became in the following year the regular occupant. In 1839 he took the place of Victor Cousin at the Sorbonne, and held it till 1851, when after the *coup d'état* his lectures were suspended by a special decree. Some months later he refused to take the oath to the new Constitution, and was therefore dismissed.

In 1848 M. Simon was elected a deputy for the Côtes du Nord, and joined the Moderate Republican party in the Constituent Assembly. He was appointed a member of the Commission and of the Committee for the Organisation of Labour, and in this capacity opposed with some force the influence of M. Albert. In the troubles of June he went most resolutely into the disaffected parts of Paris, and was chosen President of the Commission to visit the wounded. After order had been re-established he busied himself principally with questions concerning public instruction, became secretary of the Commission on Primary Education, and was appointed reporter on the organic law of instruction.

Having been chosen as secretary of the Commission charged provisionally with the functions of the Council of State, M. Jules Simon was elected in the beginning of 1849 a member of the reorganised Council of State, and resigned his seat as representative. After his withdrawal from the council he sought re-election on the enforced retirement of one-third of the Legislative Body, but did not succeed, and in 1855 he was engaged in various towns in Belgium, holding *conférences* on Philosophy, which were most successful. In 1863 he was returned as deputy for the eighth Circonscription of the Seine. In the Chamber he was speedily known as the Liberal Opposition speaker who was most attentively listened to, and he especially defended

with great eloquence the liberty of the press, the laws for public instruction, and the interests of the women of the labouring classes.

At the general election of 1869 M. Simon was elected to represent La Gironde and the eighth Circonscription of the Seine, and chose the seat for the last-named.

On the proclamation of the Legislative Body of the plebiscite of May 8, 1870, M. Simon protested against the way in which the vote had been managed by the Government, and along with the Left he subsequently strongly protested against the war with Prussia. On the Revolution of September 4 he was proclaimed, along with all the deputies of Paris, a member of the Government of National Defence, and on the next day he was appointed Minister of Public Instruction, Religion, and the Fine Arts. He began his work by suppressing the theatrical censorship, preparing a project of law on public instruction, and reorganising the schools, so as to ensure popular education in the Department of the Seine. He opened the library of the Senate to the public, placed the Luxemburg at the disposal of the scientific and literary societies for their *soirées*, and reorganised the study of modern languages and of geography in the *lycées*. At the same time, while carrying on this work he was also taking his part in providing for the defence of Paris. He was, with some of his colleagues, imprisoned in the Hôtel de Ville by the insurgents during the night of October 31, but was liberated by the National Guard. On January 31, 1871, he was sent after the capitulation to Bordeaux with full powers to act, in case M. Gambetta should induce the delegation there to refuse to carry out the decrees of the Paris Government. In this difficult state of affairs M. Jules Simon displayed remarkable tact accompanied with firmness, and obtained the annulment of the decree which declared the functionaries or official candidates of the then defunct empire to be ineligible for office; compelled M. Gambetta to resign his position, and, notwithstanding the attitude of the population in the South of France, secured the regular conduct of the elections of February 8 for the National Assembly. He was elected a deputy for Seine-et-Marne, and M. Thiers, then President of the Republic, continued him in the office

of Minister of Instruction. In January, 1872, he presented to the Chamber a bill for compulsory primary instruction, which was violently opposed by the Catholics, who were yet further excited by his reforms in secondary education, and his aim to obtain the more thorough study of modern languages. In 1873 came the crisis which overthrew M. Thiers, and M. Jules Simon resigned his post. He was then elected chief of the Republican Left, and both in the Chamber and outside was the strongest worker in the movement to prevent the restoration of the Monarchy. He made an able speech in November against the proposal to extend the period of Marshal MacMahon's tenure of office of President, and on December 16, 1875, was elected a perpetual senator, pursuant to a coalition, of which he had been one of the principal promoters. On the same day he was elected to fill the Chair of the French Academy left vacant by the death of M. de Rémusat. He was at this time editor of the *Siècle*, and exercised great influence during the elections of 1876.

When the new Chambers met, M. Dufaure was entrusted with the task of forming a Cabinet, but did not succeed, and M. Jules Simon accepted the task, which he accomplished on December 13, holding himself the portfolio of the Interior as well as the post of President of the Council. His programme was more satisfactory to the Moderates than to the advanced sections, though he also claimed that the Republic should be served by Republicans. In the next year the Catholic bishops, excited by Pius IX., got up a sort of general petition in favour of the Papal claims, seconded by various religious congregations and Catholic committees. An inquiry was demanded by the Chamber, and opened on March 29. Several Catholic committees were dissolved, especially that of Paris, by a circular to the Prefects, and the Chamber, by 361 votes to 121, called on the Government to employ the means at its disposal to repress the clerical agitations. This was accepted by the Premier. Some days later Marshal MacMahon made a pretext of a vote on the Press Law, taken in the Premier's absence, to write his famous letter to M. Jules Simon blaming him for not having interfered to prevent this vote, to which the Premier replied by stating the facts, and resigning. The Cabinet resigned with him, and brought on the *coup d'état* of May 16.

When the new Cabinet under M. de

Broglie demanded of the Senate the dissolution of the Chamber, M. Jules Simon vigorously opposed the proposal; and after the old Chamber had been sent back by the electors, M. Simon took but little part in politics.

Outside the Legislative Assemblies M. Jules Simon was specially devoted to the promotion of primary instruction and the amelioration of the condition of the working classes. He was also president of the Society for the Professional Instruction of Women, which founded in Paris four schools for this purpose. His writings on various subjects—historical, literary, philosophical, and political—extended from the year 1839 to a few years before his death, which occurred on June 8, at Paris, after a prolonged illness.

Sir George Dasent, D.C.L.—George Webbe Dasent, third son of John Rorke Dasent, Attorney-General of St. Vincent, West Indies, was born in that island in 1817, and was educated successively at Westminster School, King's College, London, and Magdalen Hall, Oxford. In 1840 he graduated with a second class in Classics, and in the following year was appointed by Sir Thomas Cartwright, H.M. Minister at Stockholm, to be his private secretary. On his return in 1845 to England he was appointed assistant editor of the *Times*, and held that post until 1870. In 1852 he was called to the bar at the Middle Temple, and admitted as advocate in Doctors' Commons, and from 1855 to 1865 held the post of Professor of English Literature and Modern History. In 1870 he was appointed by Mr. Gladstone a Civil Service Commissioner, and retired in 1892, and during his official life superintended the introduction of open competition into the Civil Service. He was knighted in 1876; having in 1846 married Frances Louisa, third daughter of W. F. A. Delane of Easthampstead Lodge, Bracknell, Berks, and a sister of the well-known editor of the *Times*.

Sir George Dasent's literary career commenced with his publication in 1842 of a translation of "The Prose, or Younger, Edda," dedicated to Thomas Carlyle. This was followed by a "Grammar of the Old Norse Tongue" (1843), "Theophilus in Icelandic and other Tongues"—numerous translations of Norse tales which appeared in *Blackwood's Magazine* (1843-58); "The Story of Burnt Njal" (1861); "The Story of Ghisti the Outlaw" (1866); "Jest and Earnest," a collection of essays (1873); "Tales from the Fjeld"

(1874), "The Vikings of the Baltic" (1875), and a translation of the "Orkney and Hacon Sagas," published (1894) by the Master of the Rolls. His principal works of fiction include "Annals of an Eventful Life" (1876), published anonymously; "Three to One" (1872), "Half a Life" (1874). Sir George Dasent was, in addition, a brilliant

conversationalist and a distinguished virtuoso, especially with regard to old English plate. He died on June 11 at his residence, Tower Hill, Ascot, which had suffered seriously from a fire in 1890, in which many valuable and interesting art objects and other treasures were destroyed.

On the 2nd, at Rungsdorf on the Rhine, aged 65, **Friedrich Gerhard Rohlf**, a famous African explorer. Born at Vegesack; studied medicine; entered the French Foreign Legion, and served as military surgeon in Algiers, 1859-60, when he commenced his travels in Morocco, Abyssinia, etc., accounts of which he subsequently published; German Consul-General at Zanzibar, 1884-5. On the 3rd, at Dawlish, aged 61, **Lieutenant-Colonel Edward Hawke Helyar**, son of Rev. H. W. Helyar. Entered the Army, 46th Regiment; served through the Crimean Campaign. On the 3rd, at Savile Row, aged 77, **Sir George Johnson, M.D., F.R.S.** Born at Goudhurst; educated at Grammar School there; entered as a medical student at King's College, 1839; M.B., 1841; M.D., 1844; and various other distinctions; Professor of Materia Medica at King's College, 1857-63; of the Principles and Practice of Medicine, 1863-76, when he became Professor of Clinical Medicine; held numerous appointments in connection with the College of Physicians; he was a voluminous writer and a keen controversialist. Married, 1850, Charlotte Elizabeth, daughter of Lieutenant White, R.N., of Addington. On the 4th, at Rome, aged 67, **Ernesto Rossi**, a distinguished Italian actor. Born at Leghorn; studied law at the University of Pisa, but soon afterwards entered the dramatic academy of Gustavo Modena. After obtaining much success in Italy he appeared in Paris in 1853 with Mdle. Ristori, performing chiefly the plays of Goldoni, but later established his own dramatic company, visiting Paris in 1866 and 1875, when he gave his series of Shakespearian impersonations, which he repeated subsequently in London. Retired from the stage, 1889; was the author of several plays and a volume of reminiscences. On the 5th, at Islington, aged 61, **Rev. Armine Styleman Herring**, eldest son of Rev. Armine Herring, Rector of Thorpe, Norwich. Educated at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge; B.A., 1857; appointed Vicar of St. Paul's, Clerkenwell, 1865, and for thirty years was most zealous in all works of local philanthropy. On the 7th, at Abbeyleix, Co. Mayo, aged 58, **Colonel Colin Campbell, C.B.**, son of Captain C. Campbell. Appointed to 48th Foot, 1855; commanded 7th Dragoons in Egypt, 1882, with distinction. Married, 1864, Isabella, daughter of J. Watson, of Co. Perth. On the 8th, at El Onatia, Tripolis, aged 33, **Marquis de Morès**, son of the Duc de Vallambrosa, an intrepid explorer and ardent opponent of the English in Africa. Married Miss Medorah Hoffman, an American heiress, and warmly supported the cause of General Boulanger, hoped to rouse the Africans against the English and to attack Egypt from the south. On the 8th, at Brentwood, aged 83, **General Stephen Francis Macmullen**. Entered the Bengal Cavalry, 1829; served through the Punjab Campaign, 1848-9. On the 9th, at Notting Hill, aged 66, **Major-General John Salusbury Trevor, C.S.I., R.E.** (Bombay), son of Captain Salusbury Trevor, Bengal Cavalry. Educated at Addiscombe; gazetted to the Bombay Engineers, 1848; transferred to the Railway Department, 1855; Under Secretary to Bombay Government and Chief Engineer, 1870; Director-General of Railways, 1880. On the 9th, at Brussels, aged 65, **Prince Charles d'Arenberg**, second son of the Duke Engelbrecht, of Arenberg. Married, 1876, Countess Hunjady de Kethely, widow of Michael III., Prince of Servia, who was assassinated in 1868. On the 10th, at Cambridge Square, Hyde Park, aged 87, **Sir Thomas Galbraith Logan, K.C.B.** Entered the Army Medical Department, 1828; served in the East and West Indies and in the Sutlej Campaign, 1845-6, and was principal medical officer of the Highland Division during the Crimean War; Director-General of Army Medical Department, 1867 and 1874. Married, 1858, daughter of Colonel Ernest C. Wilford, R.S.C. On the 10th, at Oxford, aged 79, **Mrs. Goodwin**, Ellen King, daughter of George King, of Higher Bebington, Chester, and sister of Rev. Bryan King, a leading High Church divine. Married, 1845, Rev. Harvey Goodwin, Bishop of Carlisle, 1869-91. On the 10th, at South Kensington, aged 50, **John Henry Middleton, LL.D., D.C.L.**, a distinguished writer on art and archæology, son of John Middleton, of York. Educated at Cheltenham School, Exeter College, Oxford, and King's College, Cambridge, and at the University of Bologna; Fellow

of King's College, Cambridge; Slade Professor of Art at Cambridge, 1886-90; Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge; Art Director at South Kensington, 1893; author of "Ancient Rome" (1885-92), "Engraved Gems" (1891), etc. Married, 1892, Bella, second daughter of W. J. Stillman, U.S.A., and *Times* correspondent at Rome and Athens. On the 10th, at Bath, aged 74, **Major Thomas Everard Hutton**, son of Henry William Hutton, of Sherbrooke Hall, Notts. Entered the Army, 1840; served with 4th Light Dragoons at Balacava, where he was severely wounded. Married, 1856, Maria G., daughter and heir of E. Everard, of Middleton Hall, Norfolk, whose name he assumed, 1864. On the 12th, at Harrington Square, N.W., aged 69, **Lewis Thomas**, a well-known oratorio singer. Born at Bath; appointed lay clerk at Worcester Cathedral, 1850; first sang at London concerts, 1854; sang in St. Paul's Cathedral and Temple Church; Gentleman of the Chapel Royal, 1857. On the 13th, at Quetta, N.-W.P., aged 57, **General Sir James Browne, K.C.S.I.**, son of Robert Browne, of Falkirk, N.B. Educated at Addiscombe; appointed to the Bengal Engineers, 1857; served in the North-West Frontier Campaign, 1860; in the Umbeyla Campaign, 1863, when he was wounded; in the Afghan War, 1878-9; and in the Egyptian Campaign, 1882, commanding the Royal Engineers of the Indian contingent; Superintendent of Works in the construction of the Indus Bridge, 1875; Engineer-in-Chief of the Scinde-Pishirn Railway, 1884; Quartermaster-General in India, 1888-92, when he was appointed Agent and Chief Commissioner in Beluchistan. Married, 1864, Alice, daughter of C. Pierson. On the 13th, at Chalfont St. Peter's, Bucks, aged 87, **Rev. Canon Richard Norris Russell**, of a Limerick family. Born in France; graduated as Bachelier-ès-Lettres at the Sorbonne, 1828; came to England; graduated B.A. at Caius College, Cambridge, 1832 (sixth wrangler); Rector of Beachampton, Bucks, 1835-82, and worked assiduously among the surrounding rural population. Married, 1868, Lady Mary, daughter of the Rev. Hon. C. G. Perceval, and sister of seventh Earl of Egmont. On the 14th, at Madrid, aged 70, **Conde de Casal Ribeiro**, a distinguished Portuguese statesman, the oldest member of the Council of State. On the 17th, at Lilford Hall, Northants, aged 63, **Lord Lilford**, Thomas Lyttelton Powys, fourth Baron Lilford, grandson of third Lord Holland. Educated at Harrow School and Christ Church, Oxford; a distinguished ornithologist, and for many years President of the British Ornithologists' Union, and a frequent contributor to its journal, the *Ibis*, also to the *Zoologist*, etc.; author of the "Birds of Northamptonshire" and "Coloured Figures of Birds of Great Britain," etc., etc. Married, first, 1862, Emma Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Brandling, of Lower Gosforth, Northumberland; and second, 1885, Clementina, daughter of Ker Baillie Hamilton, C.B. On the 18th, at Bishop's Court, Co. Kildare, aged 56, **Lord Clonmell**, Thomas Charles Scott, fifth Earl of Clonmell. Entered the Rifle Brigade, 1859; served on the Gold Coast in the Ashanti War, 1874, and at the capture of Kumassi. Married, 1875, Agnes, daughter of Robert Godfrey Day. On the 18th, at Grosvenor Street, W., aged 73, **William Cholmeley, M.D.**, son of Rev. Robert Cholmeley, Vicar of Wainfleet, Lincolnshire. Educated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital; graduated at St. Andrews University, 1850; Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, 1870; a distinguished physician and writer on medical subjects; devoted much time to the establishment of the Great Northern Central Hospital. Married, 1871, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel H. Ross-Gove, C.B. On the 20th, at Ontario, Canada, aged 76, **Hon. John Beverley Robinson**, some time Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, second son of Sir John Robinson, C.B., of Beverley House, Toronto. Married, 1847, Mary Jane, daughter of Christopher S. Hagerman, Puisne Judge of the Queen's Bench, Upper Canada. On the 21st, at Pekin, aged 61, **Tsou-Hai**, Dowager Empress of China, daughter of a Mantchu public official, by whom she was sold to a mandarin of Canton. Having been certified faultless physically, intellectually, and morally, she was admitted to the imperial palace and became the wife of the Emperor, Tchien-Feng, who conferred upon her the title of Empress of the West. On his death in 1861 she became co-regent, 1871-81, and sole regent, 1881-9; was the opponent of Prince Kung and the supporter of Li Hung Chang. On the 22nd, at Folkestone, aged 44, **Sir Augustus Henry Glossop Harris**, son of Augustus Harris, a popular comedian (who was the son of Rev. H. Glossop, Vicar of Isleworth). Born at Paris; educated for commercial life, but took to the stage in 1873, and appeared as Malcolm in "Macbeth"; became assistant stage manager of the Royal Italian Opera Company, 1875; produced his first pantomime at the Crystal Palace, 1876; undertook the management of Drury Lane Theatre, 1879; revived the Italian opera in London, 1887, and did much to bring Wagner's operas into fashion; Sheriff of London, 1890-1; member

of the first London County Council. Married, 1881, Florence Edgecombe, daughter of William E. Rendle, of Plymouth. On the 22nd, at Manchester Square, aged 69, **Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck**, Prudence Penelope, fourth daughter of Colonel Charles Powell Leslie, of Glaslough, Monaghan. Married, 1850, Right Hon. George A. F. Cavendish Bentinck, M.P., of Brownsea Island, Dorset, son of Major-General Lord Frederick Cavendish Bentinck, C.B. On the 22nd, at New York, aged 64, **Hon. Benjamin H. Bristow**, a prominent lawyer, politician and soldier. Born at Elkton, Kentucky; admitted to the Bar, 1853; took a prominent part in the Civil War on the side of the Unionists; U.S. District Attorney for the Louisville District, 1865-70; Solicitor-General of the United States, 1870-3; Secretary of the Treasury, 1874-6. On the 23rd, at Shoreham, Kent, aged 84, **Sir Joseph Prestwick**, a distinguished geologist. Born at Clapham; educated at London and Paris, and subsequently at the recently-established University College, London; entered business as a wine merchant and remained till 1872. He began writing in 1833 by publishing papers in the "Transactions of the Geological Society" on the strata of the London and Hampshire tertiary basins; was appointed member of the Royal Commissions on Coal, 1866; on the Metropolitan Water Supply, 1867; succeeded Professor Phillips in the Chair of Geology at Oxford, 1874-88; President of the International Geological Congress held in London, 1888; Wollaston Medal, 1849; Royal Society Medal, 1865. On the 23rd, at Beer, Devon, aged 55, **Hamilton Macallum**, a well-known marine painter, second son of John Macallum, of Kames, N.B. On the 24th, at Brussels, aged 78, **Professor Hubert Kufferath**, a distinguished musical composer. Born at Mühlhausen a/m Rhein; went to Leipzig, 1838, and studied for some years under Mendelssohn, and afterwards joined the new Romantic School under Reinhardt; founded the Cologne Choral Society, 1841; and appointed Professor of Counterpoint at the Brussels Conservatoire, 1844. On the 25th, at St. John, New Brunswick, aged 78, **Sir Samuel Leonard Tilley, K.C.M.G., C.B.**, son of Thomas M. Tilley, of Queen's County, New Brunswick. Was in business as a druggist until 1854; Private Secretary of New Brunswick, 1854-67, and leader of Government, 1861-5; Privy Councillor of Canada and Minister of Customs for the Dominion, 1867; of Public Works, 1868-9; Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, 1873-8; Finance Minister of the Dominion, 1878-85; Governor of New Brunswick, 1885-94. Married, first, 1843, Julia Anna, daughter of James T. Hanford, of St. John, N.B.; and second, 1867, Alice, daughter of Zachariah Chapman, of St. Stephen, N.B. On the 25th, at Versailles, aged 81, **The Duc de Nemours**, second son of the Duc d'Orléans, afterwards Louis Philippe. Born at Paris, Oct. 25, 1814; had to leave France with his parents during the Hundred Days; offered the Crown of Belgium, 1831; served with the Army in Algiers, 1836-7 and 1841. Married, 1840, Princess Victoria, of Saxe-Coburg, and resided at Claremont, 1848-71. Was the first member of the Orleans family, in 1853, before the fusion, to recognise the Comte de Chambord as the legitimate sovereign. On the 25th, at Bournemouth, aged 81, **Marmaduke Wyvill**, of Burton Constable and Denton Park, Yorkshire, eldest son of Marmaduke Wyvill, M.P. for York, 1820-30. Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge; B.A., 1839; sat as a Liberal for Richmond, Yorkshire, 1847-65 and 1866-8; a claimant of the barony of Scrope of Masham. Married, 1845, Laura, daughter of Sir Charles Ibbetson, of Denton Park. On the 27th, at Paris, aged 69, **Charles Joachim Lefèvre**, a conspicuous racing man in France and England, son of a lawyer at Senlis, near Chantilly. After a short career in Paris, having spent all his money, disappeared, having been condemned in his absence to two years' imprisonment for embezzlement; went to America, where he ultimately became connected with the Honduras railway and loan, from which he derived enormous profits; returned to England, 1869, and began to run horses under the name of "Mr. Lombard," and from 1871-90 was a constant and successful racer, but his fortune melted away before his death. Married, 1874, Mdlle. de Sourdis, a lady of old family. On the 27th, at Woldingham, Surrey, aged 70, **Major John Berryman, V.C.** Entered the 17th Lancers as a private; served through the Crimean Campaign and Indian Mutiny, 1857, and Zulu War, 1874, with great distinction and bravery, for which he received the Victoria Cross and a commission. On the 28th, at Brighton, aged 74, **Captain William Percival Elgee**. Entered 50th Foot, 1839; served with distinction through the Sutlej Campaign, 1844-5; Chief Constable for Lancashire, 1859-67; Inspector of Constabulary, 1867-92. On the 28th, at Ottawa, aged 82, **Hon. Robert Reade**, of Quinte, Canada, son of Robert Reade, of Ferringham, Suffolk. Emigrated to Canada, 1836; sat in the Dominion House of Commons, 1866-71, and in the Senate until his death. On the 29th, at Hill Street, W., aged 69, **Lord Fitzhardinge**, Francis William

Fitzhardinge Berkeley, second baron. Educated at Rugby; entered the Army, 1844; Royal Horse Guards, 1853-7; represented Cheltenham as a Liberal, 1856-65; unsuccessfully claimed the earldom of Berkeley, 1891. Married, 1857, Georgiana, daughter of William Holme Sumner, of Hatchlands, Surrey. On the 29th, at Fallowfield, Manchester, aged 72, **Henry Dunckley**. Born at Warwick; educated for the Baptist Ministry at Accrington; graduated at Glasgow University, 1843; Pastor at Salford, 1844-50; appointed editor of the *Manchester Examiner*, 1856-88; he subsequently contributed to the *Manchester Guardian*, and wrote several pamphlets, etc., under the pseudonym of "Verax," of which "The Crown and the Cabinet" was the most popular. On the 30th, at Loch Inch, Castle Kennedy, N.B., aged 72, **Countess of Stair**, Louise de Franquetot, daughter of Duc de Coigny, and granddaughter of Sir Hew Dalrymple-Hamilton. Married, 1846, tenth Earl of Stair.

JULY.

Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe.—Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, one of the most popular and versatile of American writers, was the daughter of Dr. Lyman Beecher, a Presbyterian minister. She was born at Litchfield, Connecticut, in June, 1812, or one year before her distinguished brother, Henry Ward Beecher, who died in 1887. At the age of thirteen she entered the Female Seminary at Hartford, of which her sister Catherine was the principal, and two years afterwards became a teacher in that institution. In 1832 she went with her family to Cincinnati, and in 1836 married the Rev. Calvin E. Stowe, D.D., sometime Professor of Natural and Revealed Religion in Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine.

The literary career of Mrs. Stowe did not really begin until after her marriage, though a few years before she had written for the Semicolon Club sketches and papers exhibiting much promise. One of these was afterwards published, with additions, in 1849, under the title of "The Mayflower"—a series of sketches of incident and character drawn from the descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers. In 1850 Mrs. Beecher Stowe accompanied her husband to Brunswick, in order to take up their residence at Bowdoin College. It was at this juncture that the Fugitive Slave Law of the United States was passed, and Mrs. Stowe, in June, 1851, began in the *National Era*, an anti-slavery newspaper published in Washington, her celebrated story, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," written for the express purpose of exposing the system of slavery, and with no expectation of reward. The success of the novel was without precedent in the history of fiction. Nearly half a million copies were soon disposed of in the United States alone. Long afterwards, when the author was questioned respecting her work, she

said: "I did not write it. God wrote it. I merely did His dictation."

Just before the issue of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Mrs. Stowe had been much troubled by the fact that slavery was pursuing its victims more relentlessly than ever into the Free States, and that Canada even was threatened. To avert the possible contingency of the closing of Canada as a haven of refuge for the oppressed, she wrote earnest letters to Prince Albert, to the Duke of Argyll, the Earls of Carlisle and Shaftesbury, Macaulay, Dickens, and others whom she knew to be friendly to the cause of the slaves. With these letters were despatched early copies of her forthcoming story. The replies she received were most sympathetic; the work was commended for its graphic power and its righteous mission; and that which its writer apprehended—the closing of Canada to the fugitive slave—happily never came to pass.

In April, 1852, "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was first brought out in England, and edition followed edition with great rapidity. From April to December twelve different editions were published, and within twelve months from its first appearance eighteen different London publishing houses were engaged in supplying the immense demand that had set in, the total number of editions being forty. The aggregate number of copies circulated in a short time in Great Britain and the colonies exceeded 1,500,000.

During the summer of 1853 Mrs. Stowe visited Europe, and met with a most enthusiastic reception throughout England. She and her husband and her brother, Charles Beecher, arrived at Liverpool in April. At Edinburgh the "National Penny Anti-Slavery Offering" was presented to Mrs. Stowe, consisting of 1,000 sovereigns on a magnificent silver salver,

subscribed by the poorer classes. On May 8 a grand reception was given to her at Stafford House, when an address was read by Lord Shaftesbury from the ladies of England, cordially welcoming Mrs. Stowe to the mother country, and a gold bracelet formed as a slave's shackle was presented by the Duchess of Sutherland to Mrs. Stowe.

Early in 1854 she published an account of her European experiences, in the form of letters written to her friends at home, under the title of "Sunny Memories of Foreign Lands." Both before and after her return to the United States Mrs. Stowe added to the literature connected with "Uncle Tom's Cabin" by the publication—in addition to the "Key"—of "A Peep into Uncle Tom's Cabin for Children" and "The Christian Slave," a drama founded on "Uncle Tom's Cabin." In 1856 she produced a second anti-slavery novel, entitled "Dred, a Tale of the Dismal Swamp."

Mrs. Stowe paid a second visit to England and Europe in 1856, and in 1858 she began the publication of "The Minister's Wooing" in the *Atlantic Monthly* and "The Pearl of Orr's Island" simultaneously in the *Independent*.

The American Civil War broke out in 1861, and one of the first volunteers was Mrs. Stowe's son Frederick, who was severely, though not fatally, wounded at the Battle of Gettysburg. In 1863 Mrs. Stowe published her Italian story, "Agnes of Sorrento," suggested to her on her last tour in Italy. But the most important event of this time was the publication in the *Atlantic Monthly* of Mrs. Stowe's reply to "The Affectionate and Christian Address of many Thousands of Women of Great Britain and Ireland to their Sisters, the Women of the United States of America." The address had been presented to Mrs. Stowe eight years before, accompanied by twenty-six folio volumes, containing considerably more than 500,000 signatures of British women.

In 1866 Mrs. Stowe removed with her family to the South. Florida was selected as the best field, and she bought a place at Mandarin. She had now joined the Episcopal Church, and with the aid of the Bishop of Florida she established a number of churches along the St. John's River. In 1869 Mrs. Stowe published her "Old Town Folks," a story of New England life; and during this and the next few years, while her husband preached in a little church on the Florida property,

she conducted Sunday schools, sewing classes, singing classes, etc., which were well attended by both the white and coloured residents of the neighbourhood.

Mrs. Stowe's reputation was seriously overshadowed in 1870 by her attack upon Lord Byron. While in Europe Mrs. Stowe had contracted a friendship with Lady Byron, upon whose authority the allegations were understood to be based. The Countess Guiccioli having published in 1868 her "Recollections of Lord Byron," which contained some severe reflections on the character of Lady Byron, Mrs. Stowe wrote a paper in reply, entitled "The True Story of Lady Byron's Life," which appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly* for September, 1869, and also in *Macmillan's Magazine*. This article, which excited much comment, was extended into a volume called "Lady Byron Vindicated," issued in 1870.

Among Mrs. Stowe's best and most attractive works in later life were: "The Chimney Corner," issued in 1869; "My Wife and I," published in 1871; and "Palmetto Leaves," a series of Florida sketches, which appeared in 1873. Then she wrote "Poganuc People: their Loves and Lives," her last undertaking of any length in volume form.

In 1872 Mrs. Stowe delivered a course of forty readings from her own works in the principal cities of the New England States. She made another reading tour in the West the following year, but she would never undertake a third, although she frequently read on behalf of charitable objects. Mrs. Stowe had now left Florida and returned to Hartford, Connecticut, where she permanently resided, and died on July 1, after three successive attacks of paralysis. For some years before her death Mrs. Stowe's mind was more or less clouded, but her physical health remained strong and vigorous to the very last.

Sir John Pender, G.C.M.G.—John Pender, born in the Vale of Leven, Dumbartonshire, in 1815, the only surviving son of Mr. James Pender, was sent to the parish school about the age of seven, and his natural abilities soon justified his parents in entering him at the High School of Glasgow.

The practical business of life began when he left school and entered a Glasgow counting-house. He exhibited a remarkable aptitude for figures, and advancement came quickly. By the

time he was twenty-one he was promoted to the management of the factory. As a Glasgow merchant, Mr. Pender rapidly extended the business of his firm, and so quickly built up a large home and export trade in textile fabrics that it soon opened a house in Manchester, acquiring eventually so high a reputation in the Northern and Midland centres of the market for piece-goods as to become one of the largest establishments dealing in Scotch and Lancashire fabrics. Messrs. J. Pender & Co. occupied for about thirty years a leading position among exporters to China, India, and the East generally, as well as to North and South America and the British Colonies.

In 1856 Mr. Cyrus W. Field arrived in England from the United States, absorbed in his idea of linking together the two great centres of Anglo-Saxon enterprise and energy by means of a submarine cable. A company was formed to develop the undertaking, with a capital of 350,000*l.* in 1,000*l.* shares, and Mr. Pender, who was already connected with telegraphy as chairman of the British and Irish Magnetic Company, became a subscriber to and a director of the new venture. Many early disasters were experienced. The first cable, taken out in 1857, broke in mid-ocean. A second was speedily manufactured, but this met with an even worse fate, and was lost in the depths.

New capital was subscribed, the Governments of Great Britain and the United States gave liberal guarantees, and by the close of 1858 a cable was at length successfully laid. This cable, 2,500 miles long, and weighing one ton per mile, was composed of seven fine copper wires, cased in guttapercha, contained in a casing of hemp saturated with pitch, beeswax, and oil, the outer sheath being composed of eighteen strands of seven iron wires each. It was taken, in equal portions, on board H.M.S. *Agamemnon* and the United States frigate *Niagara*, spliced in mid-ocean, and finally landed, the one end by the *Agamemnon* at Valentia Island, the other by the *Niagara* at Trinity Bay, Newfoundland. Unfortunately, the current obtained through the wire was so weak that a congratulatory message from the Queen to the President, consisting of ninety words, took sixty-seven minutes to transmit. Finally, after a few more messages, the cable became useless. By 1864 another cable was in progress. The Government also had had the matter under

consideration, and, after four years' investigation and delay, a Board of Trade committee reported that it was practicable to lay a submarine wire between England and America upon given lines of construction. The financial difficulty was ultimately overcome, and the Anglo-American Company, with a capital of 600,000*l.*, was floated to lay a new cable and to recover the former if possible. Mr. Pender was the chairman.

In 1865 another determined effort was made to lay the cable. This time it was still heavier and the whole length, 2,300 miles, weighing 4,000 tons, was shipped on board one vessel, the *Great Eastern*. The paying-out journey was commenced at Valentia Island, but when the vessel was 1,064 miles from that port the cable broke from an accidental strain. After a fruitless effort to fish up the broken cable from the bottom, it was abandoned for the season. Prospects were again gloomy, but this proved to be the darkest hour before the dawn. In 1866 victory was secured; another line, so modified in construction as to be both lighter and stronger than the previous one, was successfully laid by the *Great Eastern*. Then, by means of the same vessel, the 1865 cable was grappled for and brought up from a depth of two miles. It was duly spliced and completed to Trinity Bay. This double success put an end to all doubts as to the feasibility of laying submarine wires across the Atlantic.

Mr. Pender had no sooner seen the Atlantic cables permanently laid than he proceeded to work indefatigably in the organisation and development of the Mediterranean, Eastern (India and China), Australian, South African, and Direct African cables—an almost universal system, of which the American was only a segment. By the year 1882 he was able to announce to the world that 66,000 miles of submarine cable were in existence, supported by 25,000,000*l.* of capital.

Although the work of laying the Atlantic cable was completed in 1866, it was not until the year 1888 that Mr. Pender met with a recognition of his claims. He was then made a K.C.M.G., and was subsequently advanced to the dignity of a G.C.M.G. While at Constantinople, during one of his visits to the East, Sir John Pender was sent for by the Sultan to a special audience; and, in recognition of the great part he had played in connection with submarine telegraphy, his Imperial Majesty presented him with the Grand

Cordon of the Order of the Medjidie—the highest distinction which can be conferred upon an alien. He was also the recipient from the King of Greece of the Order of St. Saviour, and of the Order of the Rose from the King of Portugal. As recently as January 1, 1896, the French Government conferred upon him its highest Colonial Order, that of *Commandeur de l'Ordre Royal du Dragon d'Annam*.

Sir John Pender's parliamentary career began in 1862, when he was elected in the Liberal interest for the borough of Totnes. He sat for this place until 1866, and was then out of Parliament for some years. In 1872, however, as the result of a bye-election, he was returned for the Wick Burghs. At succeeding elections he retained the seat against the opposition of Mr. Bryce and Mr. Robert Reid. He continued to sit for the Wick Burghs until 1885, when he was replaced by Mr. J. M. Cameron. When Mr. Gladstone introduced his Irish Home Rule Bill, Sir John Pender joined the Liberal Unionists, and contested the Stirling Burghs against Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, but unsuccessfully. In 1892 he was again elected for the Wick Burghs, and re-elected in 1895, but in May, 1896, in consequence of the effects of an attack of paralysis, which affected his speech, he retired from Parliament, and after a lingering illness died at his house in Arlington Street on July 7. He was a Fellow of the Royal Societies of London and Edinburgh, and a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and of the Royal Society of Engineers.

In 1840 Sir J. Pender married a daughter of Mr. James Cearns, who died a few years later. Some time after her death he married (in 1851) Emma, daughter of Mr. Henry Denison, of Daybrook, Notts, but she also predeceased him, dying in 1890 after a married life extending over nearly forty years.

Right Hon. Sir Augustus Berkeley Paget, P.C., G.C.B.—Augustus B. Paget, the fourth son of the Right Hon. Sir Arthur Paget, G.C.B., was born in 1823, and educated privately. He was appointed first to the Secretary's Branch of the General Post Office, and afterwards transferred to the Audit Office (1839) and to the Foreign Office (1840). He was temporarily attached in December, 1843, to the mission at Madrid, where for some time he was *Chargé des Archives*. On his return to this country he was appointed *précis*

writer to Lord Aberdeen, then Foreign Secretary in the second Administration of Sir Robert Peel. After four months' service in that capacity he was transferred to the British Embassy at Paris, then in the hands of the Marquess of Normanby, where he was appointed second paid *attaché*, and on December 18, 1851, first paid *attaché*. After six years' service in Paris he was promoted to be Secretary of Legation at Athens on February 12, 1852, at a period subsequent to the rupture of diplomatic relations with Greece, when there was no regular envoy in that capital. From Athens he was promoted in December of the same year to Egypt, where he acted as Consul-General until February 19, 1853. Thence he was transferred to the Hague on January 14, 1854, and acted there on three occasions as *Chargé d'Affaires*. In 1857 he was transferred to Lisbon, and was *Chargé d'Affaires* at that capital from July 9, 1857, until January 14, 1858. From Lisbon he proceeded to Berlin in April of the same year, and was *Chargé d'Affaires* from June 17 to November 20, 1858. A month afterwards he was appointed, under the Government of Lord Derby, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Saxony. His appointment was gazetted to the King of Sweden and Norway in June of the following year, but was subsequently cancelled, and he was sent to Denmark instead. He received the Companionship of the Bath on February 10, 1863, and was made a Knight Commander of that Order on March 16 of the same year.

Sir A. Paget resided for seven years at Copenhagen until 1866, when he went as Envoy Extraordinary to the King of Portugal, in succession to Sir A. C. Magenis, and was appointed in the July of the following year, in succession to Sir Henry Elliot, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Italy, Victor Emmanuel. He remained in Italy for many years and attained his full rank of Ambassador Extraordinary on March 24, 1876, during the second Administration of Lord Beaconsfield. After the long period of sixteen years' service at the court of Italy, during a most critical period, he was transferred in 1883 to Vienna, in succession to Sir Henry Elliot, who had also preceded him at the court of the King of Italy. Sir A. Paget remained our representative in Austria till 1893, when he retired. Though deficient, perhaps, in some of the qualities which make a great diplomatist, Sir Augustus every-

where won the confidence of sovereigns and Governments by his upright, straightforward, and manly character, and was everywhere liked and esteemed as a thorough English gentleman. After his retirement he devoted a great deal of his time to the preparation of his father's memoirs.

Sir Augustus Paget married on Octo-

ber 20, 1860, the Countess Walpurga Ehrengarde Helena, daughter of Count of the Empire von Hohenthal, Maid of Honour to the Princess Royal of Prussia (Empress Frederick of Germany). He died quite suddenly on July 11 whilst on a visit to the Marquess of Salisbury at Hatfield.

On the 1st, at Ludgate Hill Station, aged 64, **General George Forbes Hogg, C.B.**, son of Major-General Adam Hogg, H.E.I.C.S. Entered the Army, 1848; served in the Punjab Campaign, 1848-9; in the Persian War, 1856-7; Abyssinian War, 1867-8; and Afghan War, 1879-80. Married, 1865, Maria, daughter of Harry Purkis, of Sturmere, Essex. On the 2nd, at Cowes, Isle of Wight, aged 72, **Rear-Admiral John Clarke Byng**, youngest son of Vice-Admiral the Hon. Henry Dilkes Byng. Entered the Royal Navy, 1838; served in H.M. *Rodney* at the siege of Sebastopol, and afterwards in the Naval Brigade; was in India during the Mutiny, 1857, and served also in Burma. Married, 1866, Penelope, daughter of Captain Thomas Garth, R.N. On the 5th, at Bayswater, aged 74, **Colonel Alfred Richard Thompson**, Deputy Commissary. Was Professor of English at the University of Odessa, 1847-53; appointed interpreter to Lord Raglan in the Crimean War; served in the Control Department on the West Coast of Africa and in Western Australia; was the author of a Russian grammar and the translator into English of several of Turguenieff's works. On the 5th, at Myddelton Square, London, aged 64, **General Thomas Gilbert Kennedy, C.B.** Entered the Indian Army, 1849, and joined the Staff Corps; served with great distinction during the Indian Mutiny, 1857, and was twice wounded; in the Sittana Expedition, 1858; the Waziri, 1859; the Afghan, 1878-86; and commanded the Waziri Expedition, 1881. On the 6th, at Oban, N.B., aged 65, **Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Allan MacDougall**, of MacDougall, third son of Vice-Admiral Sir John MacDougall. Educated at Addiscombe; entered the Bombay Artillery; served through the Indian Mutiny. Married, 1886, Harriett E., daughter of Charles Hall Monro, of Ingsdon, Devon, and widow of Major Donald P. Campbell, of Balliveolan, N.B. On the 7th, at New Babelsburg, near Potsdam, aged 53, **Professor Erdmann Encke**, a distinguished sculptor. Studied at the Berlin Academy and under Alfred Wolff; executed the statues of Frederick the Great, the Great Elector, etc., in the Royal Arsenal, and many other important works. On the 7th, at South Kensington, aged 73, **William Richard O'Byrne**, author of the "Naval Biography" (1849), eldest son of Robert O'Byrne, of Cabinteely House, Dublin. Educated at University College, London; sat as a Conservative for Co. Wicklow, 1874-80. Married, 1851, Emily, daughter of John Troughear Handy, of Malmesbury, Wilts. On the 8th, at Victoria Road, Kensington, aged 66, **Samuel Sidley**, a portrait painter of some repute. Born in Yorkshire; studied at the Manchester School of Art and afterwards at the Royal Academy Schools; first exhibited at the Royal Academy, 1855. On the 9th, at Perpignan, aged 69, **Cardinal Bousset**, Bishop of Rodez (1871), a distinguished Liberal prelate, the original of M. Zola's Cardinal Bergerot in his "Romie." Born at Labro (Arvèche); Professor at the Sorbonne, 1861-71; Cardinal, 1893. On the 11th, at Ambigol Wells, Lower Egypt, aged 40, **Major Edward Roderick Owen, D.S.O.** Entered the Army, 1876, and served with the Lancashire Fusiliers; saw much service in Western Africa, Chitral, and elsewhere, and gained considerable distinction for bravery and organisation; was also a well-known steeplechase rider and sportsman, winning the Grand National in 1892. On the 12th, at Berlin, aged 81, **Professor Ernst Curtius**. Born at Lübeck; studied at Bonn, Göttingen, and Berlin; in 1837 accompanied Professor Brandis to Greece to further researches in that country, and for four years studied the topography of the ancient cities; on his return he published "De portubus Athenarum" (1842), and "The Acropolis of Athens" (1844); Extraordinary Professor at the University of Berlin and Tutor to the Crown Prince, 1844-9; Professor at Göttingen, 1856-68, when he was recalled to Berlin as Professor of History of the Fine Arts; to him were due the excavations at Olympia commenced in 1864, and the founding of the German Archæological Institute at Athens, 1875. He was the author also of "The Discovery of Olympia" (1882), a "History of Greece" (1888), etc. On the 14th, at Hove, aged 64, **Colonel Egerton Todd**. Entered the 81st Regiment, 1850; served through the Indian Mutiny, 1857, and in several frontier wars. On the

14th, at Gerola, near Naples, aged 69, **Cardinal Monaco La Valletta**, Dean of the Sacred College, Bishop of Ostia, and Archpriest of the Lateran Basilica. Created Cardinal, 1868. On the 15th, at Quebec, aged 39, **William E. Russell**, leader of the Democratic party in the New England States. Born in Massachusetts in humble circumstances, and secured his education by hard work; unsuccessfully contested the Governorship of Massachusetts in 1888 and 1889; was elected in 1890 and two following years. On the 16th, at Champrosay, aged 74, **Edmond de Goncourt**. Born at Nancy, the elder of two brothers, distinguished French writers, who collaborated for many years in the production of novels, plays, and essays on the art and history of the eighteenth century. Jules de Goncourt died in 1870, after which his elder brother published their joint journal. He bequeathed the whole of his fortune to found the "Académie de Goncourt," to consist of ten members, neither poets nor Academicians being eligible. On the 17th, at Genoa, aged 86, **Joseph Alfred Novello**, eldest son of Vincent Novello. Began life as a singer, but was chiefly known as a successful music publisher, being the pioneer in the cheap publication of good music, oratorios, operas, etc. On the 19th, at Eaton Square, S.W., aged 65, **Sir Henry Percy Anderson, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.**, son of Rev. Robert Anderson, of Brighton. Educated at Marlborough School and Christ Church, Oxford; B.A., 1852; entered the Foreign Office, 1854; appointed Assistant Under-Secretary, 1894. Married, first, Fanny Isabella, daughter of William Cuthbert, of Beaufont Castle, Northumberland; and second, 1883, Hon. Augusta Caroline, daughter of third Lord de Saumarez and widow of fifth Lord Boston. On the 20th, at West Kensington, aged 59, **Charles Dickens**, eldest son of the novelist. Educated at King's College, Eton, and Leipzig; became assistant to his father as editor of *All the Year Round*, and subsequently became chief partner in a printing firm; editor of a "Life of Charles Mathews," "The Dictionary of London," and "Paris and the Thames." Married, 1861, May Angela, daughter of William Evans, of the firm of Bradbury & Evans. On the 20th, at Maidstone, aged 73, **Sir George Francis Hampson**, ninth baronet. Educated at Eton; entered 2nd Dragoon Guards, 1839; served through the Crimean Campaign. Married, 1855, Anne, daughter of J. Hutchings England, of Snitterfield, Warwick. On the 20th, at Buffalo, U.S.A., aged 78, **Right Rev. Arthur Cleveland Coxe, S.T.D.**, Bishop of Western New York. Born at Mendham, New Jersey; graduated at the University of New York, 1838; ordained, 1841; Rector of Grace Church, Baltimore, 1854-63; Assistant Bishop of New York, 1865-8, when he became Bishop; the author of several works and treatises. On the 20th, at Edinburgh, aged 84, **Thomas Graham Weir, M.D.**, son of Major James Weir, R.M. Educated at Edinburgh University; M.D., 1835; F.R.C.P., 1847; took a leading part in the establishment of the Sick Children's Hospital at Edinburgh, 1859. On the 22nd, at St. James's Place, S.W., aged 72, **Countess of Wemyss**, Lady Anne Frederica Anson, daughter of first Earl of Lichfield. Married, 1843, Francis, Lord Elcho, M.P., afterwards ninth Earl of Wemyss. On the 23rd, at Farnham, aged 57, **Mary Dickens**, eldest daughter of Charles Dickens, and joint editor of his "Life and Letters." On the 23rd, at Sombornon, Côte d'Or, aged 61, **Eugene Spuller**, son of a German trader married to a Frenchwoman. Born at Senne; studied at Dijon; joined the Paris Bar, 1862, and soon afterwards attached himself to Gambetta, whose lieutenant he became; editor of *La République Française*, 1871-6, when he was elected Deputy for Paris; Minister of Education, 1887; of Foreign Affairs, 1889; and of Education, 1894. On the 24th, at Eaton Square, S.W., aged 85, **Earl of Macclesfield**, Thomas Augustus Wolstenholme Parker, sixth earl. Educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford; sat as a Conservative for Oxfordshire, 1837-41. Married, first, 1839, Henrietta, daughter of Edmund Turnor, of Stoke, Lincolnshire; and second, 1842, Lady May Frances Grosvenor, daughter of second Marquess of Westminster. On the 24th, at Carlisle Mansions, Westminster, aged 74, **Lieutenant-General Hon. Augustus George Charles Chichester**, second son of first Baron Templemore. Entered the Army (6th Regiment), 1841; served in the Kaffir War, 1847. Married, 1868, Jane, daughter of W. Townend and widow of Major H. A. Macdonald. On the 25th, at Carlisle, aged 82, **Venerable John Cooper**, Canon Residentiary of Carlisle and Archdeacon of Westmorland. Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge; Wrangler and First Class Classics, 1835; Fellow of Trinity, 1837-59; Vicar of St. Andrew the Great, Cambridge, 1843-58; Rector of Kendal, 1858-95; Archdeacon of Westmorland, 1865; Canon of Carlisle, 1883. On the 25th, at Castle Connell, Limerick, aged 59, **Lady Massy**, Lady Lucy Maria Butler, daughter of fourth Earl of Carrick. Married, 1863, sixth Baron Massy. On the 26th, at Southampton, aged 71, **Major-General William R. Farmar**, son of Hugh Lovell Farmar, of Dunsinane, Co.

Wexford. Entered the Army, 1845; served with 50th Regiment in Sutlej Campaign, 1845-6; Indian Mutiny, 1857-8; Captain of Cadets, Royal Military College, Sandhurst, 1860-70; Assistant Commandant at Netley, 1872-84. Married, first, 1851, Alicia Mary, daughter of Captain Cotgrave, R.N.; and second, Ellenor Louisa, daughter of Rev. W. L. Girardot, of Hinton, Charterhouse. On the 28th, at Hopton Grange, Mirfield, York, aged 69, **Alfred Marriott**, a wealthy manufacturer, who, after providing for several relations, left the residue of his property, valued at 400,000*l.*, for building churches and endowing hospitals. On the 29th, at Badger Hall, Salop, aged 70, **Colonel Alfred Capel Cure**, second son of Capel Cure, of Blake Hall, Essex. Entered the Army, and served with 55th Regiment in the Crimean Campaign, where he was severely wounded. On the 30th, at Folkestone, aged 74, **General Archibald Tisdall**, son of Charles Arthur Tisdall, of Charlesfort, Co. Meath. Educated at Sandhurst; appointed 35th Foot, 1840; served with his regiment through the Indian Mutiny, 1857-8, and in the West Indies. Married, 1856, Anne Claire, daughter of Major H. Bellew, of the Bengal Army.

AUGUST.

Right Hon. Sir William R. Grove, P.C., D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S.—William Robert Grove, the son of Mr. John Grove, was born at Swansea on July 11, 1811. He was educated by the Rev. E. Griffiths, of Swansea, and subsequently by the Rev. J. Kilvert, of Claverton, Bath. He matriculated in 1827 at Brasenose College, Oxford, where he took an ordinary degree in 1830. In 1835 Mr. Grove was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, but was prevented by ill-health for several years from actively pursuing his profession. During this period he was absorbed in electrical researches, and succeeded in 1839 in contriving the powerful Voltaic battery to which he gave his name. In the following year he was appointed Professor of Experimental Philosophy at the London Institution, a chair which he filled for seven years. It was during his tenure of this office that he laid the foundation of the European reputation in the world of physical investigation which he subsequently acquired. In 1842 he delivered a series of lectures on the progress of physical science since the foundation of the London Institution, in which he first advanced the doctrine of the mutual convertibility of the various natural forces—heat, electricity, etc. This theory was afterwards more fully developed in the epoch-making essay on the "Correlation of Physical Forces," published in 1846. In the meantime he had been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, taking an active part in its proceedings, especially in the discussions on the reform of the society, which was effected after a severe struggle in 1847. In that year he obtained the Royal Society medal for his Bakerian lecture

on Voltaic ignition and on the decomposition of water into its constituent gases by heat. He also contributed many papers to the proceedings of the Royal Society and to the *Philosophical Magazine*. He was appointed a member of the Metropolitan Commission on Sewers and of the Royal Commission on the Patent Laws, and at the Bar enjoyed a considerable practice in patent cases. In 1866 he was President of the British Association at Nottingham, the subject of his address, afterwards published in a separate form, being the "Continuity of Natural Phenomena."

His profession meanwhile had not been neglected, and both in Westminster and on the South Wales and Chester Circuits he made his mark, and in 1853 took silk. Together with Serjeant Shee and the unfortunate Dr. Kenealy he appeared at the Central Criminal Court on behalf of William Palmer, the Rugeley poisoner.

In November, 1871, Mr. Grove was created a Judge of the Common Pleas in succession to Sir Robert Collier. It was thought that the new judge would be especially valuable in the trial of patent cases; but it can hardly be said that the result answered the anticipation. He took part in many notable decisions, and his judgments were usually concisely expressed and to the point.

Sir W. R. Grove retired from the bench in 1887, after sixteen years' service. He was, as was customary, shortly afterwards sworn a member of the Privy Council, and occasionally took part in the proceedings of that tribunal. His scientific labours had received official recognition in

foreign countries, and he was a member of the Academies of Rome and Turin. His university in 1875 conferred upon him the distinction of an honorary degree.

Sir William Grove married in 1837 a daughter of Mr. John Diston Powles. For some time Sir William Grove had been in failing health, but his death on August 1, at his house in Harley Street, was somewhat sudden.

Prince Lobanof.—Prince Alexis Borisovitch Lobanof-Rostofski, who belonged to the group of Rurikovitchi families claiming descent from Rurik, the half-mythical founder of Russian Czarism, was born December 30, 1824, and after passing through the Imperial Alexandrovski Lyceum, entered in 1843 the Economic Department of the Foreign Office. In 1847 he was chosen by Count Nesselrode as his first private secretary, and in 1850 was appointed in a subordinate capacity to the Berlin Embassy, where he remained until the close of the Crimean War, when he was transferred as Conseiller to the Embassy at Constantinople, and in 1857 was promoted to be Russian Minister Plenipotentiary at the Porte.

In 1863 his diplomatic career was suddenly interrupted by matters connected with his private life, and for three years he lived in retirement at Nice. He was recalled to Russia, and after a few months was appointed Governor of Orel, but in 1877 was brought back to St. Petersburg as Adlatus to be Minister of the Interior—a post he held for ten years.

At the close of the Russo-Turkish war in 1878 the value of his acquaintance with Turkish politics was recognised, and he was appointed to succeed General Ignatief as Ambassador to Constantinople. Carefully avoiding every new cause of friction with the Porte and with the other Powers, he tenaciously defended the interests of his own country, and continued to remain in friendly relations with his colleagues as well as with the Turkish officials. At the end of 1879 he was sent as Ambassador to London, but only remained here for about three years; the delicate position of affairs between Russia and Austria making his presence at Vienna desirable. On more than one occasion during the thirteen critical years of his embassy there, a rupture between Russia and Austria seemed imminent, but Prince Lobanof's tact, which was recognised by the monarchs of both empires, averted the explosion. On M. de Giers'

death in 1892 Prince Lobanof hoped to succeed him as Secretary for Foreign Affairs, but the Czar, for reasons not divulged, considered his presence at Berlin indispensable. On the refusal, however, of M. de Staal to accept the Foreign Secretaryship, the post was offered to and gladly accepted by Prince Lobanof.

In his new office the Prince displayed extraordinary activity, which surprised and at the same time disconcerted his friends and colleagues. During his career as Ambassador he refrained from any show of sympathy with the Slavophil sentiment, but as soon as he was installed at the Foreign Office, Serbia, Montenegro and Bulgaria were by various means helped and encouraged, and the infant Prince Boris was received into the Orthodox Church. At the same time the Sultan's fears from a Balkan confederation were set at rest by Prince Lobanof's action in the Armenian difficulty, by which he showed himself a defender of the integrity of Turkey. He seemed to wish to follow the policy of Nesselrode, whose aim had been not to break up that empire for the benefit of Western Europe, but to bring it wholly under the exclusive protectorate of Russia. At the same time he aimed at paralysing the influence of the Triple Alliance, and with this view he established cordial relations with France, and raised difficulties for Italy in Abyssinia. It was part of a like policy which induced him to maintain the integrity of China, and England's decision to stand aloof from the threats conveyed to Japan increased Prince Lobanof's systematic hostility towards Great Britain. This feeling was partly due to his high conception of the power and dignity of Russia, and his idea that his predecessors had been too conciliatory in their attitude. He was, however, a statesman of high order and a consummate diplomatist, who merited the lasting gratitude of his countrymen by his forethought, vigour, and prudence in the conduct of her policy. He had accompanied the Czar to Vienna, where the first of the ceremonial visits to the crowned heads of Europe was paid, and on August 30 was travelling by way of Kieff to Breslau to meet the German Emperor. Shortly after passing the Russian frontier the imperial train was stopped near the Scheptowka Station. Prince Lobanof, who had only taken a few steps, was seized with a spasm of the heart, and before aid could be obtained fell back and expired.

On the 1st, at Vichy, aged 73, **Madame Ibrahim**, daughter of Jules Brum, a soldier under Napoleon I., who settled in Egypt and married a native. His daughter married Ibrahim, a non-commissioned officer of the Turcos, who was killed, together with his son, in the assault of the Malakoff (1855). She was appointed *vivandière* of the 2nd Zouaves; was wounded at Solferino and thrice at Sedan; imprisoned at Stettin; went with her regiment to Tongking, 1881, and was again seriously wounded. On the 1st, at Wentloog Castle, Monmouth, aged 71, **Sir George Ferdinand Radzivill Forestier Walker**, second baronet, son of General Sir G. T. Walker, G.C.B., baronet. Educated at Sandhurst; entered the Coldstream Guards, 1845. Married, 1854, Fanny, daughter of first Lord Tredegar. On the 2nd, at Rochester, Mass., U.S.A., aged 60, **Calvin E. Pratt**, Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York. Born at Worcester, Mass.; admitted to the Bar, 1852; recruited 31st Regiment of New York Volunteers, and was gazetted Brigadier-General, and served with great distinction through the Civil War; resumed his practice at the Bar, and was elected to the Bench of the Supreme Court, N.Y., 1869, by both parties. On the 3rd, at Dawley Court, Uxbridge, aged 84, **William Fane de Salis**, third son of fifth Count de Salis. Educated at Eton and Oriel College, Oxford; B.A., 1835; called to the Bar at the Inner Temple, 1836; some time Chairman of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, etc. Married, 1859, Emily Harrietta, daughter of J. T. Mayne, of Telfont Manor, Wilts. On the 3rd, at Wellington, N.Z., aged 78, **James Edward Fitzgerald**. Born in Ireland; educated at Christ's College, Cambridge, and for many years in the Librarian's Department of the British Museum; joined the "Canterbury" settlers, and was their chief executive officer, 1854-7; founded and edited the two first newspapers of the settlement, and subsequently sat in the New Zealand Parliament. On the 4th, at Guernsey, aged 88, **Sir Edgar MacCulloch, F.S.A.**, son of Thomas MacCulloch, of St. Peter's, Port Guernsey. Jurist of Royal Court, 1844-84; Lieutenant-Bailiff, 1867-84; Bailiff, 1884. On the 4th, at Ayston Hall, Uppingham, aged 92, **Rev. Sir John Henry Fludyer**, fourth baronet, third son of George Fludyer, M.P. for Chippenham. Educated at Westminster School and St. John's College, Cambridge; B.A., 1826; Rector of Ayston, 1834-96. On the 5th, at Naini Tal, N.-W. P., aged 59, **Lieutenant-General Sir William Kidston Elles**, son of Malcolm J. Elles. Educated at Sandhurst; entered 54th Regiment, 1854; served in the Crimea, 1854-5; Indian Mutiny, 1857-8; Hazara Campaign, 1868; and Burmese Expedition, 1886-7, with great distinction; Aide-de-camp to the Queen, 1881-90. Married, 1863, Eleanor Noble, daughter of George Warre. On the 6th, at Gloucester Gardens, Hyde Park, aged 88, **Major-General Henry Tod Tucker**, son of Colonel J. G. P. Tucker. Entered the Bengal Army, 1824; served on the Headquarter Staff through the Sutlej Campaign, 1846; Punjab Campaign, 1849; Adjutant-General, 1850-6; Aide-de-camp to the Queen, 1854. Married, 1852, Harriet, daughter of Sir Henry Allen Johnson. On the 7th, at Paris, aged 58, **Duchesse de Sexto**, Princess Sophie Troubetzkoy. Married, first, 1854, Comte, afterwards Duc de Morny, French Ambassador and Minister; and second, 1874, Duc de Sexto. On the 8th, at Thorpe Lea, Egham, aged 83, **John Charles Blackett**, third son of Sir William Blackett, fifth baronet. Born at Thorpe Lea; entered the Royal Navy, 1827-38, when he went to Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania), and afterwards to New Zealand, where he was the first to explore the northern island. His yacht *Albatross*, seventy-two tons, was the first vessel of that size to circumnavigate the world. On the 8th, at Tewin Water, Herts, aged 56, **Earl of Limerick, K.P., A.D.C.**, William Hall J. C. Perry, eldest son of second earl. Born in New South Wales; entered the Army and served in the Rifle Brigade, 1858-62; Lord-in-Waiting, 1886-9; Aide-de-camp to the Queen, 1887; Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, 1889-92 and 1895-6; Conservative Whip in the House of Lords, where he sat as Baron Foxford. Married, first, 1862, Caroline Maria, daughter of Rev. Henry Gray, Vicar of Almondsbury, Gloucestershire; and second, 1877, Isabella, daughter of Chevalier de Colquhonn. On the 8th, at Croft, Yorkshire, aged 58, **Sir William Clayton**, third baronet. Educated at the Military School, Edinburgh; Captain, 1st Durham Militia. Married, 1866, Mary, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Henry van Straubenzee, of Spennithorne, York. On the 10th, at Aldworth, Hants, aged 83, **Lady Tennyson**, Emily, daughter of Henry Sellwood, of Bracknell, Berks, and niece of Sir John Franklin. Married, 1850, Alfred Tennyson, who was made Poet Laureate in the same year. On the 11th, at Long Melford, aged 80, **Woodforde Ffooks Woodforde**, son of Thomas Ffooks, Clerk of the Peace for Dorset. Educated at Sherborne School and Exeter College, Oxford; B.A., 1842; admitted to the Bar at the Inner Temple, 1844; assumed the name of Woodforde, 1870;

appointed County Court Judge (Derbyshire), 1874-89. Married, 1852, Anne Oliver, daughter of W. Beadon, of Otterhead, Devon. On the 12th, at Belhelvie Lodge, Aberdeenshire, aged 74, **Lieutenant-General Sir Harry Burnett Lumsden, K.C.S.I., C.B.**, son of Colonel Thomas Lumsden. Entered Bengal Army, 1839; served through the Afghan War, 1842-3, as interpreter and quartermaster; in the Sutlej Campaign, 1846; severely wounded at the battle of Sobraon; and the Hazara Campaign, 1846; raised the Corps of Guides, 1846, and commanded them in the Sikh War, 1847-52; served in the expeditions, 1859-60; was severely wounded by a fanatic, 1864. Married, 1866, Fanny, daughter of Rev. Charles J. Myers, Rector of Flintham, Notts. On the 12th, at New Haven, Conn., U.S.A., aged 66, **Hubert Anson Newton**. Graduated, 1850, at Yale, where he was appointed Professor of Mathematics, 1853; author of several valuable works on pure mathematics and meteorics; introduced the metric system into the arithmetics of the United States, 1864; elected Associate of the Royal Astronomic Society of London, 1872, and Fellow of the Philosophic Society of Edinburgh, 1886. On the 13th, at Royston, Herts, aged 79, **Lady Dacre**, Susan Sophia Cavendish, daughter of first Baron Chesham. Married, 1837, twenty-second Baron Dacre, whose title in 1890 merged in that of Viscount Hampden. On the 13th, at Bangor, Isycoed, aged 78, **Rev. George Henry M'Gill**. Educated at Manchester Grammar School and Brasenose College, Oxford; Incumbent of Christ Church, St. George's-in-the-East, 1855-68, where he greatly relieved the educational and material wants of the parish; appointed Rector of Bangor, Isycoed, and Rural Dean, 1868. On the 14th, at Leamington, aged 67, **William H. Gray**. Born at Montrose, and first employed by the New River Company of London, where he brought about the abolition of the high and low level system; appointed Engineer of the Birmingham Waterworks, 1865-94. On the 14th, at Walthamstow, aged 69, **Rear-Admiral John Whitmarsh Webb**, third son of Major Robert Webb, R.E. Entered the Navy, 1841; served during the Crimean War in the Black Sea, 1854, and in China, 1855. On the 15th, at Dublin, aged 83, **Most Rev. Patrick Duggan, D.D.**, Roman Catholic Bishop of Clonfert. Born at Belclare, Tuam; ordained Priest at Kilmoylan, 1841, and consecrated Bishop, 1872; took an active part in the Nationalist cause in 1848 and again in 1872, and in the Land League movement, the Plan of Campaign having been first promulgated in 1887 in his parish of Loughan, Co. Galway, but refused to sign the declaration against Mr. Parnell, 1890, and finally retired from politics. On the 15th, at Onebarrow, Leicester, aged 85, **Mrs. de Lisle**, Laura Maria Clifford, daughter of Hon. Thomas Clifford, of Chudleigh. Married, 1833, Ambrose de Lisle, of Garendon Park and Gracedieu Manor, Leicester, the founder of the Cistercian Abbey at Mount St. Bernard in that county. On the 16th, at Rouen, aged 66, **Elise von Krienitz**, better known as "Camilla Selden," to whom, under the name of "Mouche," Heinrich Heine addressed his last poem and many letters. She published (1884) "Les derniers jours de H. Heine." On the 16th, at sea, aged 78, **Sir David Lewis Macpherson, K.C.M.G.** Born in Inverness-shire; educated at the Inverness Academy; emigrated to Canada, 1835; M.L.C. for the Sangeen Division, 1864-7; Speaker of the Dominion Senate, 1880-3; Minister of Interior, 1883. On the 17th, at Bournemouth, aged 54, **Lieutenant-Colonel Justin Charles Ross, C.M.G.**, son of Alexander Ross, B.C.S. Entered Bengal Engineers, 1860; was employed in reconstructing the Barrage of the Nile, 1883-4, by which large tracts of Lower Egypt were irrigated. On the 19th, at Boston, U.S.A., aged 76, **Professor Josiah Dwight Whitney**, a distinguished geologist. Born at Northampton, Mass.; graduated at Yale, 1839; was appointed assistant geologist in survey of New Hampshire, 1846; investigated the Lake Superior District, 1849; appointed State Chemist; Professor at Iowa University, 1855; State Geologist of California, 1860; and Professor of Geology at Harvard University, 1865; the author of numerous scientific works. Married, 1849, Miss Louisa Goddard, of Manchester. On the 19th, at Torrington House, St. Albans, aged 73, **Georgiana Elizabeth Ormerod**, a distinguished botanist and entomologist, daughter of George Ormerod, D.C.L., of Sedbury Park, Gloucestershire, and Tyldesley, Lancashire. On the 19th, at Boar's Hill, Oxford, aged 64, **Alexander Henry Green, F.R.S.**, Professor of Geology in the University of Oxford, son of Rev. Thomas Sheldon Green. Born at Maidstone; educated at Ashby-de-la-Zouche Grammar School and at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge; Sixth Wrangler, 1855; Fellow, 1857; appointed to the Geological Survey of England and Wales, 1861; Professor of Geology and Mathematics at the Yorkshire College, Leeds, and at Oxford University, 1888. On the 20th, at Copenhagen, aged 58, **Julius Lange**, Professor of the History of Art at the Copenhagen University, and a writer on art subjects. On the 21st, at Aussee, aged 76, **Count Antony Szécsen**,

chief steward of the imperial and royal household. A member of the Croatian Diet, 1844-8; of the Hungarian Diet, 1860-7, and as Minister advocated the neutrality of Austria-Hungary in the Franco-Prussian War. On the 22nd, at Edinburgh, aged 83, **Sir William Stuart Walker, K.C.B.**, eldest son of Brigadier-General Alexander Walker, of Bowland Stow, N.B. Educated at St. Mary's Hall, Oxford; B.A., 1835; admitted an advocate of the Scottish Bar, 1840; Secretary to the Poor Law Board, 1852-68; and Chairman of the Board of Supervision, 1868-92. Married, 1836, Eliza, daughter of William Loch, H.E.I.C.S. On the 22nd, at Westminster, aged 69, **Lieutenant-General Bendyshe Walton, C.I.E.**, son of Major Charles Walton, 4th Light Dragoons. Entered the Army, 1848; served through the Sikh War, and carried the colours of 53rd Regiment at Gujerat; served through the Indian Mutiny, and was severely wounded at the relief of Lucknow, 1857. On the 22nd, at Kensington, aged 68, **Frederick Brooksbank Garnett, C.B.**, son of William Garnett, Inspector-General of Stamps and Taxes. Entered the Inland Revenue Department, 1843, and was Secretary to the Board, 1875-82; Surveyor-General, 1882-6. Married, 1863, Mary, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel John Laurie, R.A. On the 23rd, at Dover, aged 75, **Captain Sir Thomas Bruce, R.N.**, son of Rev. Thomas Bruce, of Westbere, Kent. Entered the Navy, 1835; served during the Syrian War, 1840; on the River Plate, 1846-7; and in the Baltic, 1854-5; Naval Agent in India, 1863-4; Superintendent of the Packet Service at Dover, 1864-92. Married, first, 1861, Elizabeth, daughter of C. W. Harvey, of Middle Deal House, Kent; and second, 1874, Louisa, daughter of George Bishop, of Sunbury House, Middlesex, and widow of Major A. Lamb, R.H.A. On the 24th, at The Knap, Dundee, aged 81, **Lord de Mauley**, Charles Frederick Ashley Cooper Ponsonby, son of first Baron de Mauley. Educated at Eton; sat as a Liberal for Poole, 1837-47, and for Dungarvan, 1851-2. Married, 1838, Lady Maria Jane Ponsonby, fourth daughter of fourth Earl of Bessborough. On the 24th, at Tutzing, Bavaria, aged 64, **Nicholas Rüdinger**, Professor of Anatomy at Munich University. Was very successful in applying photography for the purpose of anatomical illustration, and the author of several important works on surgery, anatomy, etc. Educated at Heidelberg and Giessen Universities. On the 25th, at Maid's Moreton, Bucks, aged 35, **Captain Louis Ferdinand Harry Courthope Morgan-Grenville**, eldest son of Colonel George Manners Morgan, of Biddleston Park, Bucks. Entered 4th Dragoon Guards, 1880. Married, 1884, Mary, eldest daughter of Richard, last Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, and in her own right eighth Baroness Kinloss in the peerage of Scotland. On the 26th, at Kensington, aged 80, **Sir Robert Stuart, Q.C.**, of Glenhead, Stirlingshire, son of Robert Stuart, of Annal, Perthshire. Educated at the University of Edinburgh; admitted a member of the Faculty of Advocates, 1840; called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, 1856; Q.C., 1868; Chief Justice of the High Court, N.-W. Provinces, 1871-84. Married, 1859, Annie, daughter of John Hall, of Dublin. On the 26th, at Folkestone, aged 80, **Captain Frederick Erskine Johnston, R.N.**, fourth son of Right Hon. Sir Alexander Johnston, some time Chief Justice of Ceylon. Entered the Navy, 1836. Married, 1854, Clemantine, daughter of Admiral Henry Collier. On the 29th, at Durie, Fife, aged 78, **Robert Christie**, second son of Charles Maitland Christie, of Durie. Entered the Army, 1836; served in the 5th Bengal Cavalry through the Afghan Campaign, 1847-8, and severely wounded at Chilianwallah. On the 30th, at Woodspeen, Newbury, Berks, aged 55, **Captain Herbert Holden Edwards, R.N.** Entered the Navy, 1853; served in the Black Sea during the Crimean War, 1854-5; in China, 1857; in the Naval Brigade during the Indian Mutiny, 1858-9; North China Expedition, 1860; the suppression of the Tae-ping rebellion, 1862; the attack on the British Legation at Jeddo, 1872; and in the Suez Canal operations, 1882.

SEPTEMBER.

Sir Joseph Archer Crowe, K.C.M.G., C.B.—Joseph Archer Crowe, the son of Eyre Evans Crowe, a well-known journalist, was born in Sloane Street, London, in 1825. He was originally intended for a painter, and joined his brother, Mr. Eyre Crowe, as a pupil in the studio of Paul Delaroche; but,

although he had great love for art, and acquired great knowledge of pictures, he made but little progress in his actual work. His father meanwhile had become foreign editor of the *Morning Chronicle*, and afterwards first foreign editor, and then editor, of the *Daily News*, which he joined at its

commencement. His son followed his father's fortunes, and earned his living as a journalist and reporter on the same paper until 1852, when certain changes were effected in its management; and the son having been dismissed on account of illness the father resigned his chair. Then young Crowe passed through what he described as a period of struggle and privation, which was terminated by the offer of an engagement as correspondent of the *Illustrated London News* during the Crimean War. This kept him employed until the peace, when he returned to London and made arrangements for the publication of a work on "Early Flemish Painters," which he had written in conjunction with his friend Signor Cavalcaselle, during the enforced leisure which followed the termination of his work upon the *Daily News*. His next aim was to obtain the directorship of an art school in India; and, after some preparatory studies at South Kensington, he was selected for the superintendence of the Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy School at Bombay. Differences arose between the directors at home and the authorities in India with regard to this appointment, and Crowe proceeded to Bombay without waiting until they were settled. The settlement was not accomplished until three months after his arrival, and in order to live during the interval he returned to his original profession of a journalist, and became a contributor to the *Bombay Gazette* and other Indian papers. His work in this direction led to more than one Indian editorship, and in September, 1858, Mr. Standen, the *Times* correspondent at Bombay, having been compelled by illness to leave his post, Mr. Crowe was appointed to succeed him, and continued to fill the position until his return to England in the following year. He then proceeded to Austria as the *Times* correspondent during the war with France.

Shortly after the termination of this engagement he was persuaded by Mr. Bernal Osborne to seek employment from the Foreign Office, his father having been well known both to Lord Palmerston and to Lord John Russell, and his application was successful. He was despatched to Germany to make confidential reports upon certain commercial questions, on which he became before long a recognised authority, and the adviser of successive Foreign Secretaries. He was appointed Consul-General for Lower Saxony in July, 1860, for Westphalia in 1872, Com-

mercial Attaché to the Embassies at Berlin and Vienna in 1880, a Royal Commissioner to negotiate a commercial treaty with France in 1881, and Commercial Attaché for Europe, to reside in Paris, in 1882. Besides these permanent appointments, he was often employed on important duties of a temporary character. He was made C.B. in 1885 and K.C.M.G. in 1890. He retired from office in April of the present year, having employed much of the leisure of his thirty-six years of official life in the completion of his early design of writing extensively on art in conjunction with Signor Cavalcaselle. Their first book reached a second edition in 1872; and they published a "History of Painting in Italy," 1864; a "History of Painting in North Italy," 1871; a "Life of Titian," 1877; and a "Life of Raphael." He also edited Burckhardt's "Cicerone" and Waagen's "Handbook of Italian Painting." He married, in 1861, Asta, Baroness von Babey; and the recent volume of his reminiscences is dedicated to his wife and children, and was written at their request. He died somewhat suddenly, on September 6, at Schloss Gamburg, in Baden, the residence of his brother-in-law, Professor Gerhardt.

Hon. Mr. Justice Denman.—George Denman, the fourth son of the first Lord Denman, was born on December 23, 1819, at 50 Russell Square, and was educated successively at Felsted and two other schools, and finally at Repton, whence he proceeded to Trinity College, Cambridge. As the son of a peer, he was able to go in for the classical tripos without competing for mathematical honours. In 1842 he took his degree as "captain of the poll" and senior classic, being at the same time in training for the University Boat Race. He rowed seventh in a winning Cambridge University crew, and he won the Colquhoun Sculls. He was also a great pedestrian, and achieved the feat of leaving Cambridge at five in the morning of a winter day, and arriving at Shoreditch at eighteen minutes past five in the afternoon. Elected a Fellow of Trinity, Denman resided for a short time in the university and took part in its work. He was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1846, and went the Home Circuit. Like Campbell, Blackburn, and other great lawyers, he passed some of his earlier years in reporting, and was for some time on the staff of the *Law Journal*. In

1856, on the death of Mr. Henry Goulburn, he made a bold attempt to get into Parliament, unsuccessfully contesting his university against Mr. Spencer Walpole. In 1859, however, he was so fortunate as to be chosen with Lord Palmerston for Tiverton without a contest, and with a single brief intermission he sat for that borough for thirteen years. In the election in July, 1865, he was defeated by three votes by Mr. (afterwards Sir) John Walrond, but after Lord Palmerston's death he again won the seat in contest with Sir J. C. D. Hay, and kept it until his appointment in October, 1872, to the Bench.

Though never a keen politician, he prominently identified himself on the Liberal side with many important questions. He opposed a bill introduced by Mr. M'Mahon for allowing appeals in criminal cases, on the ground that it would operate in favour of the rich as against the poor, and would make convictions more difficult. The Roman Catholic Oaths Bill of 1865, which proposed to omit words requiring Catholic members of Parliament and others to abstain from any action calculated to subvert the Established Church, found in Mr. Denman a zealous advocate. Four years later he introduced, and succeeded in passing, the Evidence (Further Amendment) Act, popularly known as "Denman's Act," by which witnesses who professed to have no religious belief were enabled to affirm in courts of justice. University Tests was another subject in which, by vote and speech, he manifested his interest, and he was still in the House at the time of their abolition. He had on occasion the courage to act against his party, and in 1870 he spoke against a clause in the Peace Preservation Bill, which gave the Government unrestricted power to suppress newspapers for seditious language, and he made a vigorous and eloquent speech in favour of the vote of censure proposed by Mr. Assheton Cross on the famous occasion when Sir Robert Collier was made a Judge of the Common Pleas for the purpose of giving him a "colourable" qualification to sit as a paid member of the Judicial Committee. He took part in the debates on all the reform bills which were introduced during his parliamentary life, and always declared himself in favour of enlarging their operation. Another question in which Mr. Denman interested himself was Mr. Dodson's bill of 1861—which was carried—by which non-residents were enabled

to take part in University elections by means of voting papers. All matters affecting the universities and public schools interested him deeply; and he opposed the effort made to exact tests from lay professors, and in the case of some of the great public schools sought to exempt members of governing bodies from the necessity of belonging to the Established Church.

At the Bar, doubtless, much of Denman's success was due to his being his father's son, and he never acquired the sort of reputation achieved by the judge whom he succeeded, Sir James Shaw Willes, or became a great advocate or cross-examiner. Like his father, he had a handsome face, a dignified bearing, and considerable rhetorical power; and his fine scholarship saved him from deficiencies of taste and sense of proportion. He was counsel to Cambridge University and to the Royal College of Physicians. He had been appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1863, and in 1872 on the death of Mr. Justice Willes, Denman was chosen to succeed him. If he did not reach the eminence of some of his contemporaries, he achieved success by urbanity, tact, and a fair grasp of legal principles, and he was never conspicuous in failure.

On the first day of the Michaelmas Sittings in 1892 Mr. Denman, on his retirement, bade a public farewell to his colleagues and the Bar. According to the usual custom, he was shortly after his retirement made a member of the Privy Council, and he occasionally sat on the Judicial Committee. He also engaged in various public movements of a benevolent or educational character. In the Trinity College Mission he took a special interest. In 1894 he began a course of systematic visits, extending over a year, to the Natural History Museum at South Kensington. But the classics formed almost to the day of his death his favourite relaxation. He was a fine scholar of the old-fashioned Cambridge type. He published a translation of Gray's "Elegy" into Greek elegiac verse, and also one of the first books of the "Iliad" into Latin elegiacs, and in the spring of the present year he printed, for private circulation, a translation in English verse of the "Prometheus Bound" of Æschylus. In 1852 he married Charlotte, daughter of Mr. Samuel Hope, a Liverpool banker; and he died on September 21, at his residence in Cranley Gardens, after a prolonged illness.

Sir John Erichsen, Bart., M.D., F.R.S.—Sir John Erichsen was born in 1818, his father being a well-known Copenhagen merchant and his mother a Miss Govett. He was brought up in England, and never revisited Denmark until a few years before his death, and was in every respect an Englishman, though he had a perfect knowledge and pronunciation of French. A student of University College, London, Erichsen became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1839, and a Fellow by examination in 1845. He taught physiology at the Westminster Hospital for a short time, and then became Assistant Surgeon at University College Hospital. Here the state of anarchy which had reigned after the death of Liston in 1847 and the advent and retirement of Syme and Arnott was brought to an end by the appointment of Erichsen to be Professor of Surgery and Surgeon to the hospital in 1850. This chair he held for fifteen years, and then succeeded Mr. Quain as Holme Professor of Clinical Surgery, retiring in 1875. A few years after his appointment as professor, Erichsen published his well-known and widely-appreciated "Science and Art of Surgery," long regarded as the standard work on English surgery.

Sir John Erichsen was elected into the Council of the College of Surgeons in 1869, became an examiner for a short time in 1875, and president in

1880. He was a reformer in medical politics, and was instrumental in bringing about the meetings of the fellows and members of the college, the first of which was held in 1870. He received the honorary degree of LL.D. from the University of Edinburgh, as well as numerous distinctions from English and foreign universities. He was a member of the Royal Commission on Vivisection in 1875, and was for a time inspector under the Vivisection Act. Sir John Erichsen was the senior Surgeon Extraordinary to the Queen, and had been president of University College, London, since 1887. As a young man Erichsen worked at physiology, and wrote "An Experimental Inquiry into the Nature and Treatment of Asphyxia," to which the Royal Humane Society awarded its Fothergillian gold medal, of the value of 50*l.*, in 1845.

In 1885 Sir John Erichsen was brought forward as the Liberal candidate for Parliament of the medical graduates of the Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrews, who were tired of a succession of Conservative Lord Advocates, but was unsuccessful.

Sir John Erichsen received his baronetcy in 1895, at the same time as his pupil Sir John Russell Reynolds. He married in 1842 Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Captain Cole, R.N.; and he died on September 23 at Folkestone, from a paralytic seizure.

On the 1st, at Brixton, aged 66, **Horace Brooks Marshall, J.P.**, the pioneer of the railway bookstall trade (1840-60), subsequently made over to and developed by Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son; son of William Marshall, of Holborn Bars. Married, 1860, Ellen, daughter of Thomas Grimwood, of Bredfield, Suffolk. On the 1st, at Holywell, aged 58, **Rev. Wilfrid Wallace, D.D., O.S.B.** Educated at London University and St. Edmunds (R.C.) College; after many years' parochial work in East Greenwich, entered the Beuron congregation of the Benedictines; author of "Hymns of the Church" (translated from the Roman Liturgy) and "Life of St. Edmund of Canterbury." On the 2nd, at Bedford, aged 83, **Major-General Roger Stewart Beatson, R.E.**, son of Captain Henry Dundas Beatson, R.N. Educated at the Royal Academy, Woolwich; appointed to Royal Engineers, 1832; Director of Engineering Works at Portsmouth, 1839-45; and at Woolwich, 1845-8; commanding detachment in Canada, 1849-54, and was instrumental in saving from fire the public records of the Parliament House at Quebec; Superintending Engineer of the Ordnance Department, Woolwich, 1854-6; Commandant of Engineers at Gibraltar, 1856-9; Newcastle, 1859-65; and New Zealand, 1865-9. Married, first, 1847, Elizabeth, daughter of General John S. Wood, Lieutenant of the Tower of London; and second, 1868, Charlotte, daughter of Major-General Alexander Gordon, R.E. On the 6th, at Paris, aged 70, **Sigismond de Pomian Kaczkowski**, a distinguished Polish novelist. Born at Bereznika; when a student at Lemberg University was arrested and imprisoned until 1848; elected to the Viennese Parliament, but did not sit; applied himself to literature and wrote a series of national romances; founded the *Glos* newspaper, 1861; and was soon afterwards imprisoned until 1863, when he removed to Paris, and continued writing down to the time of his death. On the 6th, at Idvies, Forfarshire, aged 63, **Sir Thomas Dawson Brodie**, first baronet, son of John Clerk Brodie, C.B., LL.D. Educated at the Edinburgh Academy, Harrow, and Edinburgh University; admitted as Writer to the Signet, 1857; Deputy Keeper of the Privy Seal for Scotland,

1869-74; a strong politician, a keen sportsman, and an eminent naturalist; created a baronet, 1892. Married, first, 1864, Charlotte, daughter of Thomas John Farnell, of Heathmont, Co. Clare; and second, 1876, Anne, daughter of William Dawson, of Gairloch and Powfoulis, Stirlingshire. On the 7th, at Naples, aged 89, **Luigi Palmieri**, successively Professor of Mathematics at Salerno, Campobasso, and Avellino, and Professor of Physics at the Royal Naval School and at the University of Naples. Appointed Director of the Vesuvius Observatory, 1854, and a Senator, 1874; the inventor of an electrometer, rain gauge, seismometer, and other instruments. On the 8th, at Withington, Gloucester, aged 86, **Hon. the Rev. George Gustavus Chetwynd Talbot**, third son of second Earl Talbot. Educated at Christ Church, Oxford; B.A., 1831; appointed Rector of Withington. Married Emily Sarah, daughter of Henry Elwes, of Colesbourne, Gloucester. On the 9th, at Portland Place, London, W., aged 68, **Sir William James Moore, K.C.I.E.**, son of Edward Moore, of Halesowen, Worcestershire. Entered the Bombay Medical Service, 1852; served in the Parian War, 1856-7; Residency Surgeon at Jabalpur, 1862-7, and at other posts; Honorary Surgeon to the Viceroy, 1888, and Honorary Physician to the Queen. On the 9th, at Penzance, aged 95, **John Josias Arthur Boase**, son of Henry Boase, of Madron, Cornwall. Educated at Tiverton and Helston; partner in the Penzance Union Bank, 1828-38; a great authority on numismatics and a coin collector; sale at Leigh and Sotheby, 1860. On the 9th, off Portobello, Midlothian, aged 67, **David Boyle Hope**, son of James Hope, D.K.S. Sheriff of Dumfries and Galloway, 1889-90; Principal of Roxburgh, Berwick, and Selkirk, 1890. On the 10th, at Görz, aged 43, **Prince Egon Hohenlohe**, fourth son of Prince Victor, of Hohenlohe, Schillingsfürst. Born at Randen; Captain on the Russian Staff; Honorary Knight of Malta; Member of the Austrian Reichsrath; President of the Southern Railway, 1893. Married, 1885, Princess Leopoldine, daughter of Prince Maurice le Lobkowitz, Duke of Randrietz. On the 10th, at Wimbledon, aged 47, **Professor Joseph Edwin Crawford Monro, LL.D.** Born in Co. Down; educated at Queen's College, Belfast, and Cambridge University; called to the Bar at the Middle Temple, 1876; appointed Professor of Political Economy, etc., in Victoria University, Manchester, 1882; contested unsuccessfully East Manchester as a Radical in 1892 and 1895. Married, 1883, Minnie, daughter of Hugh Wallace, of Dorset Hall, Merton. On the 10th, at Broxbourne, aged 71, **Rev. Henry Robert Reynolds, B.A., LL.D.** Educated at Cowan College and University College, London; B.A., 1844; Fellow of University College, 1848; Pastor of the Congregationalist bodies at Halstead and Leeds, 1847-60; President of the Countess of Huntingdon's College, Cheshunt, 1860-95; editor of the *British Quarterly Review* and *Evangelical Magazine*, and the author of various essays, books, and hymns. On the 12th, at Melbourne, aged 62, **Hon. Sir George Frederic Vernon, K.C.M.G., C.B., F.R.S.**, son of Rev. Edward Vernon, of Pendleton, Lancashire. Educated at Ressall School; emigrated to Melbourne, 1854; called to the Bar of Victoria, 1863; elected to the Legislative Assembly, 1879, and held office in various Administrations, 1860-8; Agent-General for the colony, 1868-72. Married, 1861, Anne, daughter of J. Armstrong of Melbourne. On the 12th, at Godalming, aged 71, **Rev. Edward St. John Parry**, eldest son of Dr. Thomas Parry, Bishop of Barbadoes. Educated at Rugby and Balliol College, Oxford; B.A., 1845, First Class Classics; Warden of Queen's College, Birmingham, and Classical Professor, Toronto, 1852-6; Principal of Leamington College, 1857. On the 13th, at London, aged 63, **Major-General Francis James Thomas Ross**. Educated at Cheltenham College; appointed to 18th Bombay Native Infantry, 1852; served with distinction through the Indian Mutiny, and subsequently held several important civil posts in the Bombay Presidency. On the 16th, at Camden Town, N.W., aged 75, **Arthur John Wood**. Educated at Christ's Hospital; called to the Bar at the Inner Temple, 1853; was employed under successive Lord Chancellors on the work of statute law revision, and prepared nine Statute Law Revision Acts applying to England, 1868-78. On the 16th, at Fareham, Hants, aged 68, **Major-General Frederick Llewellyn Alexander**. Joined the Royal Marine Artillery, 1846; served through the Crimean War in the Black Sea. On the 18th, at Muirtown House, Inverness, aged 33, **Lady Vaux**, Eleanor Margaret, daughter of Sir Alexander Matheson, baronet. Married, 1886, Lord Vaux, of Harrowden. On the 18th, at Grosvenor Street, W., aged 76, **Colonel Edward Charles Warner**. Entered the Bengal Cavalry (20th Hussars), 1841; served through the Gwalior Campaign, 1843-4, and Afghan War, 1848-9. On the 20th, at Venice, aged 37, **Princess Olga**, of Montenegro, only daughter of Prince Danilo I. and the Princess Darinka, and first cousin of Prince Nicolas. On the 21st, at Sheffield, aged 51, **Venerable Henry Arnold Favell**.

Educated at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge; B.A., 1866; Curate of St. Martin's, Birmingham, 1867-73; Vicar of St. George's, Sheffield, 1873-83; St. Mark's, Sheffield, 1883; Prebendary of York, 1890; Archdeacon, 1895. On the 21st, at London, aged 61, **Colonel George Cadogan Thomson**, of Little Thurlow Park, Suffolk. Appointed to the Bengal Cavalry, 1851, and served with great distinction through the Mutiny, 1857-8, at Delhi, Lucknow, and Bareilly. On the 23rd, at Lower Ward, Windsor Castle, aged 60, **Captain the Hon. Frederick Nathaniel Twisleton-Wykeham-Fiennes**, fifth son of thirteenth Baron Saye and Sele. Educated at Eton; entered the Army (Royal Welsh Fusiliers), 1853; distinguished himself in the Crimean Campaign. Married, 1887, Isabella Margaret, daughter of T. M. Richardson, of Hibbaldstowe Cliff, Co. Lincoln, Military Knight of Windsor. On the 24th, at Christianstad, Sweden, aged 78, **Baron Louis de Geer**, for many years Prime Minister of Sweden, and the author of the existing constitution. On the 24th, at Cambridge, aged 76, **Sir George Murray Humphry, M.D., F.R.S.**, Professor of Surgery in the University of Cambridge, son of W. W. Humphry, barrister-at-law. Born at Sudbury, and pupil of Mr. Crosse, F.R.C.S., of Norwich; educated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital; L.S.A. and M.R.C.S., 1842; F.R.C.S., 1844; M.B., Cambridge, 1852; M.D., 1859; Professor of Anatomy at Cambridge, 1866-83, when he exchanged for the Chair of Surgery; took an active part in advancing medical study in the University; the author of several scientific works and member of numerous learned societies. Married, 1846, Mary, daughter of D. M'Nish, of Epping, Essex. On the 25th, at Cadenabbid, aged 90, **Grenville Charles Lennox Berkeley**, second son of Admiral Sir George C. Berkeley, G.C.B., Commissioner of Customs. Married, 1828, Augusta, daughter of J. H. Leigh, of Stoneleigh Abbey, Warwick. On the 26th, at Ramsgate, aged 59, **Frederic Holmwood, C.B.** Appointed Vice-Consul at Zanzibar, 1873; Consul, 1880-7; Consul-General at Smyrna, 1888. On the 26th, at Bognor, aged 52, **Edward Lavington Oxenham**, son of Rev. W. Oxenham, of Harrow School. Appointed Student-Interpreter in China, 1866; called to the Bar, 1883; occupied several Consular appointments in China, 1878-90. On the 27th, at Hampstead, aged 45, **Sir George William Morrison**, son of Rev. George T. Morrison. Admitted as Solicitor, 1875; Town Clerk of Leeds, 1878-92; called to the Bar at the Inner Temple, 1893; a recognised authority on municipal law. Married, 1881, Annie Sophia, daughter of George Tatham, of Leeds. On the 30th, at Staines, aged 71, **Francis Playford**, a member of the Stock Exchange and a distinguished oarsman from 1846, when he rowed in the Thames Club boat at Henley and at Putney. Won the pair oars' race at Henley and the Wingfield sculls from Putney to Kew, 1849, defeating T. A. Bone, the champion, by a few yards; one of the founders of the London Rowing Club, 1856, and many years Vice-President. On the 30th, at Exmouth, aged 67, **Major-General William Tod-Brown, C.B., R.A.** Educated at Addiscombe College; entered the Royal Artillery (Bengal), 1846; served in the Punjab Campaign, 1848-9, and in the Indian Mutiny, 1857-8, with great distinction; A.A.G., 1875-8. On the 30th, at Edinburgh, aged 74, **Rev. John Gibson Cazenove, D.D.** Educated at Brasenose College, Oxford; B.A., 1843 (double second class); Vice-Provost of Ambrose College, 1854-67; Provost, 1867-75; Canon of the Cathedral of the Isles, 1875-8, when he became Sub-Dean and Chancellor of St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh.

OCTOBER.

William Morris. — William Morris, "poet and wall-paper maker," the son of a successful London merchant, was born at Walthamstow in 1834, and was educated successively at Forest School, Walthamstow; Marlborough College and Exeter College, Oxford, where he graduated in 1856, leaving behind him at the Debating Room of the Union eight or ten frescoes of the Arthurian legend executed by himself, Rossetti, and their friends. In 1858 he published his first volume of poems, "The Defence of Guinevere," and then

for a time abandoned both poetry and painting. In 1863 he established in Queen Square, Bloomsbury, a factory for the production of artistic glass, tiles, wall-paper, etc. In this undertaking he was associated with D. G. Rossetti, E. Burne-Jones, Ford Madox Brown and others, who were identified as the founders of the æsthetic movement in English art and industry. The business proved successful and fresh handicrafts were added after the removal of the works to Merton, Surrey. Morris's aim was not only to produce pleasing

results by good honest work, but he held that all crafts demanded artistic treatment, carrying into practice the maxims and theories of his teacher Ruskin. In 1867 he published his poem "The Life and Death of Jason," in seventeen books, which was followed in 1868-70 by the three parts of "The Earthly Paradise," a series of twenty-four romances told by travellers towards Utopia—the work by which Mr. Morris remained best known. This was followed by "Love is Enough, or the Freeing of Pharamond," 1873; and a few years later by verse translations from the "Æneid" and the "Odyssey." Mr. Morris then produced two or three successful prose romances: "A Dream of John Bull" (1888); "News from Nowhere" (1891); in all of which the strong Socialistic bias of the author's mind was made apparent. In 1892 he published another volume of "Poems by the Way," and several translations of Icelandic Sagas—"The Story of Grettin the Strong," and of the Vikings and tribe songs—and, finally, in 1895 a translation of the Anglo-Saxon epic of Beowulf. His later industrial efforts were directed towards the art of printing, and from "The Kelmscott Press" issued some of the finest specimens of typography and design which the century produced. It was, however, only a part of his life that Mr. William Morris devoted to art, literature, and business. He was an ardent politician of an advanced type, and spared himself no pains in expressing his own views and in supporting those with which he sympathised. For many years he edited and mainly supported a newspaper which was the organ of a section of the Democratic Socialist party, and on the platform he was equally ready to support his theories and views against all opponents. His death, which took place on October 3 at Hammersmith, was quite unexpected.

George du Maurier.—George Louis Palmella Busson du Maurier, a British subject, though of French ancestry—his paternal grandparents having fled to England during the Terror—was born in Paris, March 6, 1834, and was educated in that city. He was not originally destined for an artist, but was sent to England when he was seventeen years old to study chemistry at University College, London, under Professor Williamson, and he attained proficiency enough to set up as an analytical chemist in Bucklersbury. At this time his father died, and young Du

Maurier, at the age of twenty-two, abandoned chemistry for ever. Returning to Paris he studied painting under M. Gleyre, and had further instruction at Antwerp and Düsseldorf. At Antwerp a great misfortune befel him. While he was drawing in the studio of M. van Lerius his left eye suddenly became affected, and he never afterwards recovered the use of it, and he was haunted throughout his life by the fear of becoming totally blind. In 1858 he came back to London, and shared rooms in Newman Street with his friend Mr. Whistler. His earliest recognised art work in this country was done for *Once a Week*, for which he drew some good engravings. Subsequently he drew for the *Cornhill Magazine*, and was an occasional contributor to *Punch*, whose regular staff he joined somewhat later, and his drawings for which paper were from the year 1860 the main work of his life. It should also be mentioned that he illustrated a considerable number of books, such as "Esmond," the "Story of a Feather," and Thackeray's *Ballads*; and was elected an Associate of the Royal Water-Colour Society.

In 1891 he first appeared as a novelist by the publication, in *Harper's Magazine*, of a story "Peter Ibbetson." This was followed in 1894 by "Trilby," of which the extraordinary success was due to the appreciation of its American readers. The British public, however, promptly followed suit, and both as a novel and a play "Trilby" enjoyed a remarkable success. In the story, as well as in his first work, Mr. Du Maurier had worked the reminiscences of his student days in Paris, and gave a lively account of the ways of young artists. His third novel, "The Martian," was published after his death—the work having been left in a complete state. His work with the pencil was marked by long-sustained excellence of drawing and by great artistic resources. No caricaturist used less caricature, and no artist found more various subjects in the beaten tracks of society. He was always a true recorder of all that went on in our upper and middle-class life, of fashions and fashionable gatherings of all kinds, of every passing phase and craze, of polite outdoor amusements, lawn tennis, bicycling, and the like, and of holiday-making both in England and abroad.

He married in 1862 Miss Emma Wightwick, and died on October 8, after a short illness, at his house in Oxford Square, Hyde Park, to which

he had removed after having lived for the greater part of his married life at Hampstead.

Archbishop Benson.—Edward White Benson was born on July 14, 1829, near Birmingham, where his father filled an important place as manager of extensive works. At an early age he began at the Grammar School of King Edward IV. to give indication of a singularly consistent career in life. Dr. Prince Lee, first Bishop of Manchester, a really great teacher, had among his pupils many who became famous. To his influence over boys Benson paid a remarkable tribute in a funeral sermon. Lee's lessons on the Greek Testament exercised an animating force on Benson, Lightfoot, and Westcott. After a brilliant school career, Benson went to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he gained a scholarship and a fellowship. Some of his college friends expected for him a higher place than eighth classic and senior optime. He was senior Chancellor's medallist, and took his first degree in 1852. Many who knew him at Cambridge dwelt upon his strong interest in Church history, and his impressive public utterances. In 1853 he joined the staff of under-masters at Rugby, where he remained for six years, and married a lady whose brothers have made the name of Sidgwick illustrious. Benson was not yet thirty years of age when he was chosen by the governors of Wellington College as their first Head Master. He soon saw how important it was that the college should become a great public school, and his plans of organisation were seconded by the Prince Consort, who soon perceived that the Head Master of Wellington College could thoroughly be trusted. Benson possessed that animating power which infected all who came in contact with him. He organised his staff thoroughly, and gained perfect control over his own strong temper. While he directed others, he grew in character and won the good opinion of men like Charles Kingsley, who foretold his coming greatness early in Benson's life at Wellington. After thirteen years of work as a Head Master, he was asked to undertake important duties at Lincoln. The great scholar and theologian, who was at that time Bishop of Lincoln, Christopher Wordsworth, saw in Benson the very man he wanted to revive the Chancellor's School as a theological college. Much was done in the five years of his residence at

Lincoln. He became a power in the cathedral and in the city, and his own personal tastes found expression in sermons and lectures. In the *Quarterly Review* and in a volume edited by Dean Thomson, Benson had put forth his views on the cathedral system. He republished much of them in a single volume, and when in 1877 he was consecrated as Bishop of Truro, he began at once by the selection of twenty-four honorary canons to give evidence that he had not forgotten the ideas he had given forth at Lincoln. In a marvellously short time funds were gathered for the commencement of the Truro Cathedral, and the organising power so strongly manifested at Wellington College was soon evident in Cornwall. But the spiritual work of the bishop in the new diocese was widely felt. In dealing with the Methodists of Cornwall, he showed great tact and sympathy, and won from many hearty approval of his work. In the first year of his residence in Cornwall, his life was saddened by the death of a most promising son. Of his episcopate at Truro, it was said by the late Lord Coleridge: "I remember nothing more remarkable in my time than the change effected in the popular conception of a bishop, in the two counties of Devon and Cornwall, by the episcopates of Temple and Benson."

On the death of Archbishop Tait, in 1882, the Bishop of Truro was called unanimously, it is not too much to say, to the marble chair. He entered on his new duties with extraordinary energy. The relations of the Archbishop of Canterbury with the Church in the colonies had now been greatly extended. Many of the colonial bishops knew that in the new Primate they had a friend who could sympathise fully with their difficulties. The archbishop increased the interest in the missionary work of the Church by his constant attention to the practical affairs of the great missionary societies, nor were his own diocesan duties neglected. He was the life and soul of his conferences at Canterbury, and took a great delight in the ordinary routine work of his diocese. Archbishop Benson often lamented that the preparation for the Lincoln judgment had too much withdrawn him from the spiritual duties he delighted in. He had, however, the satisfaction of knowing that his wise definition of the toleration needful to restore peace gave general pleasure to a wide and important circle, and was the unani-

mous judgment of himself and his assessors. In the House of Lords the archbishop was not at first successful; but his simplicity and earnestness gradually made impression. In the conduct of convocation he was eminently successful. Though not an eloquent preacher, he was always powerful and impressive, and he possessed the rare gift of raising the tone of devotional feeling in gatherings for busy men and ladies of rank as well as clergy and Church workers. He was indefatigable in his exertions to make the assembly of bishops important and successful, and his loss will be sorely felt in the gathering of 1897.

The end came with terrible suddenness. At eight o'clock on October 11, 1896, he had attended the celebration of holy communion at Hawarden Church, and seemed to be in good health. He walked from Hawarden Castle to the eleven o'clock service, was taken ill during the reading of the

absolution, and expired peacefully at twenty-five minutes to twelve. The exclamation of Mr. Gladstone, "He died as a soldier!" realised for many the great close of a great career. Since the death of Sir Robert Peel (1850) no death made more impression on the general public. There seemed a special fitness in the archbishop's burial in Canterbury Cathedral, where on October 16 he was laid to rest with every mark of affectionate mourning. The grandson of the Queen laid a cross on the coffin—"A mark of the greatest regard and affection from Victoria R.I." In the service preached by the Bishop of London, his successor, Benson was spoken of as a man who made others draw from his life an inspiration for their own. There have been greater preachers, greater statesmen among the Prelates of England, but no one had ever shown greater loyalty and devotion to the Church of England than Edward Benson.

On the 1st, at Musselburgh, N.B., aged 66, **Colonel Robert Guthrie Craig**. Served in the Crimean Campaign, and was present in the principal engagements; in the Egyptian Expedition, 1884; and the Soudan Expedition, 1885; mentioned in despatches and promoted to be Chief Paymaster. On the 2nd, at Down, Kent, aged 88, **Mrs. Darwin**, Emma Wedgwood, daughter of Josiah Wedgwood, and granddaughter of the founder of the Etruria potteries. Married, 1839, her cousin, Charles Darwin, the illustrious naturalist. On the 3rd, at Paris, aged 63, **General Jung**, son of the painter, Theodore Jung. Born in Paris; served in Algeria and Lombardy; was General Boulanger's chief subordinate at the War Office, 1890; Commandant of Dunkirk, 1890-3, when he was elected deputy for that port, replacing the Boulangist member; was editor of the *Intermédiaire*. On the 3rd, at Wethersfield Place, Essex, aged 80, **General Charles William Thompson**. Began his military service in the Spanish Legion, 1835-6, and was severely wounded before San Sebastian; entered the 14th Light Dragoons and served through the Punjab Campaign, 1848-9; and commanded the 7th Dragoon Guards in India, 1857-67; and Colonel, 14th Hussars, 1882. On the 5th, at Ventnor, Isle of Wight, aged 41, the result of an accident, **Henry Byron Reed, M.P.**, eldest son of Henry Draper Reed, of Sydenham. Educated privately; member of the Darlington School Board, 1885-6; Chairman of the Birmingham Conference, 1890-1; sat as a Conservative for East Bradford, 1886-92, and again elected, 1895; a prominent member of the Church Defence Institution. Married, 1885, **Mary Hannah**, daughter of Matthew Atkin, of Sheffield. On the 5th, at Oxford, aged 31, **Joseph Augustus Moloney, L.R.C.P.L., F.R.G.S.**, son of Captain Moloney, 60th Rifles, of Newry. Studied medicine at St. Thomas' Hospital and King and Queen's College, Dublin; practised for some time in South London; travelled in the remoter parts of Morocco, 1889-90; joined the Stairs Expedition to the Congo, 1891-2, and visited much unexplored country; appointed to make explorations in the territory of the Chartered Company, 1895-6, which were carried out without firing a shot. On the 6th, at Ryde, Isle of Wight, aged 89, **General Sir James Abbott, K.C.B.**, son of Henry Alexis Abbott, of Blackheath. Educated at the Military College, Addiscombe; entered the Bengal Artillery, 1823; served in the siege of Bhurtpore, 1825-6; sent to negotiate between Khiva and Russia, but was carried off to the Caspian Sea, but afterwards concluded terms in St. Petersburg, 1840; held Hazara during the Sikh War, 1849-50, receiving the thanks of both Houses of Parliament; and was ruler of Hazara, 1847-53; served on the North-west Frontier, 1852-4. Married, first, 1843, **Margaret A. H.**, daughter of James Ferguson, of Trocraigh, Ayrshire; and second, 1868, **Anna Matilda**, daughter of Major Raymond de Montmorency, 67th Bengal N.I. On the 7th, at Kelso, N.B., aged 61, **Lord Kensington**, William Edwardes, fourth

baron. Born in London; educated at Eton; served in Coldstream Guards, 1867-70; sat as a Liberal for Haverfordwest, 1868-85; Lord-Lieutenant of Pembrokeshire, 1872; Groom-in-Waiting, 1873-4; Controller of the Queen's Household, 1880-5, and was senior Liberal whip; Lord-in-Waiting, 1886; Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard, 1892-5; created a Peer of the United Kingdom, 1896. Married, 1867, Elizabeth, daughter of R. Johnstone Douglas, of Lockerbie, N.B. On the 7th, at Blairquhan Castle, Ayrshire, aged 78, **Sir Edward Hunter-Blair**, fourth baronet. Born at Milton, Ayrshire; educated at the Royal Naval College, Portsmouth; served five years in the Royal Navy, 1832-7, and twelve in the 93rd Highlanders, 1837-49. Married, 1850, Elizabeth, daughter of George Wanchope. On the 7th, at Tours, France, aged 81, **General Trochu**. Born at Belleisle; served under General Bugeaud in Algeria; Aide-de-Camp to Marshal St. Arnaud in the Crimea, and distinguished himself in Lombardy in the war against Austria, 1859-60; in disgrace in consequence of a pamphlet on the military organisation of the empire, 1867-70; appointed Governor of Paris on the fall of the empire, 1870, but failed to defend the city; sat in the National Assembly, 1871-2. On the 8th, at Rome, aged 80, **Cardinal de Ruggiero**. Born at Naples; created Cardinal Deacon, 1889. On the 9th, at Worcester, aged 80, **Thomas Rowley Hill**, only son of W. Hill, F.R.A.S. Mayor of Worcester, 1859; sat as a Liberal for Worcester, 1874-85. Married, 1842, Mary Hilditch, daughter of E. Evans, of Worcester. On the 9th, at Melbourne, Victoria, aged 71, **Baron Sir Ferdinand von Mueller, K.C.M.G., M.D., F.R.S.**, son of Frederick Mueller, Commissioner of Customs at Restock. Studied medicine at the Kiel University; investigated the flora of Schleswig, 1840-6, when he went to Australia and devoted himself for fifty years to exploration and botanical research in that country, and took a leading part in the introduction of foreign plants into Australia; was the author of several botanical works; created Baron of the Kingdom of Württemberg, 1871; received the Royal Society Medal, 1888. On the 9th, at Wilton Street, Knightsbridge, aged 63, **Admiral Sir Richard Wells, K.C.B.**, son of F. O. Wells, B.C.S. Entered the Royal Navy, 1847; served in the Baltic during the Russian War, 1854-5; Commander-in-Chief on the Cape of Good Hope Station, 1888-90, and at the Nore, 1894-6. On the 9th, at Leipzig, aged 94, **Professor M. W. Drobsch**, a skilled logician and mathematician. Appointed Professor Extraordinarian of Philosophy and Ordinarian of Mathematics at the age of 24. On the 10th, at Folkestone, aged 87, **Lord Congleton**, Henry William Parnell, third baronet. Entered the Royal Navy, 1820, and was present at the Battle of Navarino, 1827, on board H.M.S. *Glasgow*; retired in 1835 to devote himself to the interests of his tenantry, with whom he maintained friendly relations. Married, first, 1835, Sophia, daughter of Colonel the Hon. William Bligh; and second, 1851, Hon. Caroline Margaret, daughter of Hon. Lionel C. Dawson. On the 10th, at Dawych, N.B., aged 69, **Sir James Naesmyth**, fifth baronet. Educated at Haileybury, and served in the Bengal Civil Service, 1847-73. Married, first, 1850, Eliza Gordon Brodie, daughter of Francis Whitworth Russell, B.C.S.; and second, 1858, Agnes Carus Wilson, daughter of Rev. W. Barclay, Bevan. On the 11th, at Edinburgh, aged 94, **General William Cavaye**. Entered the East India Company's service, 1818; served in the operations in Cutch, 1825; with the Balmer Field Force, 1832-3; and the Afghan War, 1840. Married, 1836, Isabella, daughter of W. Hutchinson. On the 11th, at Cleveland Square, aged 76, **Stephen Lynch**, son of Major Henry Lynch, of Partny House, Co. Mayo. In 1834 went to Bagdad, and was the first to open up trading relations with Mesopotamia. He remained there for thirty years, formed trading firms at Bagdad and Bussorah, and initiated a service of mail steamers on the Tigris and Euphrates. On the 11th, at Vienna, aged 72, **Anton Bruckner**, a distinguished musical composer. Born at Ausfelden, Austria; studied music first in his native village and afterwards as chorister at the Jesuit College at Kalksburg; appointed organist at Windhaag in 1841, and at Kalksburg, 1851; Professor of the Organ, Harmony, etc., at the Conservatorium, Vienna; and Court Organist, 1868; University Reader in Musical Theory, 1887; composed numerous symphonies and other works, and gave organ recitals in France, England, and elsewhere. On the 12th, at Horsens, Jutland, aged 79, **Count Frijs Frijesenborg**. Prime Minister of Denmark, 1865-70, during whose Administration the new Danish constitution was carried through Parliament. On the 12th, at Tissington Hall, Derbyshire, aged 88, **Sir William Fitzherbert**, fourth baronet. Educated at Charterhouse; served in the Inniskilling Dragoons. Married, 1836, Annie, daughter of Sir Reynold A. Alleyne, second baronet. On the 12th, at Constantinople, aged 60, **William Henry Wrench, C.M.G.**, son of Rev. Dr. Wrench, of Salehurst, Sussex. Employed in the Consulate

at Damascus, 1857-60; Acting Consul, 1860-1; Vice-Consul at Beyrout, 1862-5; Vice-Consul for the Dardanelles, 1866-72; First Vice-Consul at Constantinople, 1872-9, when he was made Consul. On the 13th, at Nova Scotia, aged 43, **Captain George Montgomery Munro**, third son of Sir Charles Munro, of Foulis, tenth baronet. Entered the Royal Highland Regiment (Black Watch), 1872; served through the Ashanti Campaign, 1874. On the 16th, at Candy, Ceylon, aged 53, **Henry Trimen, F.R.S.**, an eminent botanist. Born in London; educated at King's College; graduated M.B. at the University of London, 1865; Curator of the Anatomical Museum at King's College, 1865-8; Senior Assistant in the Botanical Department of the British Museum, 1869-79; Director of Royal Botanic Gardens, Ceylon, 1880-95; joint author of the "Flora of Middlesex" and of "Medicinal Plants" (1875-80), "Handbook of the Flora of Ceylon" (1893), etc. On the 17th, at Manydown Park, Basingstoke, aged 80, **Sir Edward Bates**, first baronet, son of Joseph Bates, of Springhall, Halifax. In 1832 sent out to India, and on his return in 1848 established himself as a merchant at Liverpool; sat as a Conservative for Plymouth, 1871-80, when he was unseated on petition, and from 1885-92. Married, first, 1837, Charlotte, daughter of C. Smith; and second, 1844, Ellen, daughter of Thomas Thompson, of Hessle, Yorkshire. On the 17th, at Becon Grange, Hexham, aged 68, **Admiral Charles Ludovic Darley Waddilove**, son of Rev. W. J. W. Waddilove, of Thorp, near Ripon. Entered the Navy, 1842; commanded H.M.S. *Swallow* during the Crimean War; second in command of the Channel Squadron, 1878-9; and at the Nore, 1887-8. Married, 1869, Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. J. A. Blakett-Ord, of Whitfield Hall, Northumberland. On the 17th, at Hampstead, aged 83, **George Arthur Fripp, R.W.S.**, son of Rev. S. C. Fripp, of Bristol. Studied locally under Sam. Jackson and Müller; first exhibited in oil-colours at the Royal Academy; subsequently devoted himself solely to water-colours; elected an Associate, 1841, and full Member of the Old Water-Colour Society, 1845; Secretary, 1848-54. On the 17th, at Bodmin Priory, aged 83, **Colonel Walter Raleigh Gilbert, C.B.**, son of Rev. Pomeroy Gilbert, of Menheniot, Cornwall. Educated at Woolwich Academy; appointed to Royal Horse Artillery, 1832-57; Chief Constable of Cornwall, 1857, up to his death; organised the Cornish Artillery Volunteer Brigade. Married, 1848, Marianne C. J., daughter of W. Peters, of Ashfold, Sussex. On the 17th, at Orme Square, Bayswater, aged 66, **Mrs. Russell Gurney**, Emilia, daughter of Rev. Ellis Batten, Master at Harrow. Married, 1852, Right Hon. Russell Gurney, P.C., M.P. (1865-78), and Recorder of London, 1856-78. On the 19th, at Abbot's Wood, Furness Abbey, aged 74, **Sir James Ramsden, V.D.**, son of William Ramsden. Studied as a Civil Engineer; appointed successively Engineer of the Barrow and Furness Railway and Manager of the immense works constructed there, due to the wealth of coal and iron of the district; was the founder of the Barrow Hematite Company; first Mayor of Barrow-in-Furness, and Honorary Colonel of 1st King's Own Lancashire Volunteers. Married, 1852, Annie, daughter of Robert Edwards. On the 19th, at Ealing, aged 70, **William Rodger**, founder and Director-General of the British Linguistic Society. Educated at Aberdeen University; formulated, 1874, a system of teaching foreign languages orally, which was widely adopted. On the 20th, at Cambridge, aged 75, **Rev. William Magan Campion, D.D.**, President of Queen's College, Cambridge, son of William Campion, of Maryborough, Ireland. Entered Queen's College, Cambridge, 1845; graduated B.A., 1849, as Fourth Wrangler; Fellow, 1850; Tutor, 1858-92, when he was elected President of the College; and Rector of St. Botolph's, Cambridge, 1861-96. On the 20th, at Paris, aged 51, **François Félix Tisserand**, Director of the Paris Observatory. Born at Nuits (Côte d'Or); educated at the Ecole Normale, Paris; graduated in Science, 1868; appointed Director of the Toulouse Observatory, 1873, and at Paris, 1892. On the 20th, at Paddington, aged 58, **William Henry White, F.R.I.B.A.**, son of Dr. William White, of the Bengal Medical Service. Studied architecture in France, and made some important restorations in that country; went to India, 1871, and returned in 1873 as Examiner in Architecture at Cooper's Hill College; appointed Secretary of Royal Institute of British Architects, 1878. On the 21st, on Montreal, Canada, aged 62, **Rev. William Henderson, D.D.**, son of Rev. Robert Henderson, Principal of Foyle College, Londonderry. Graduated at Trinity College, Dublin, 1855; after holding several curacies in Ireland, emigrated to Canada and was appointed Rector of Pembroke, Ontario, 1862; after some years spent in the United States was appointed Principal of the Diocesan Theological College, Montreal, 1878. On the 21st, at Streatham, aged 66, **James Henry Greathead, M.I.C.E.**, a distinguished Civil Engineer, and the inventor of the Greathead shield and grouting machine, which

revolutionised the system of tunnelling in large cities and under swift rivers. On the 22nd, at Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A., aged 51, **Charles Frederick Crisp**. Born at Sheffield, England; educated in the United States; served as a Lieutenant in the Civil War; and admitted to the Bar, 1866; became Solicitor-General for his State, Georgia, 1873; and Judge of the Superior Court, 1877-82, when he accepted a Democratic nomination for Congress, and was subsequently for some years Speaker of the House of Representatives. On the 22nd, at Madrid, aged 82, **General Pavia y Lacy**, Marquess de Novaliches, a staunch supporter of the Bourbon dynasty. Took an active part in the Carlist War; Captain-General of the Army, 1868; and defeated by the Duc de la Torre at the Battle of Alcolea, which decided the fate of Queen Isabella. He refused to take the oath of allegiance to King Amadeo, and retired into private life. On the 23rd, at Grantham, aged 86, **Rev. Hector Nelson**. Educated at Merchant Taylors' School and St. John's College, Oxford; B.A., 1838; Rector of Pinchbeck, near Spalding, 1845; Head Master of Moulton Grammar School, 1851; Principal of Girls' Training College at Lincoln, 1865; Prebendary of Biggleswade and Lincoln Cathedral. On the 24th, at Brighton, aged 78, **Sir Albert Abdallah David Sassoon, K.C.S.I.**, first baronet, son of David Sassoon, State Treasurer at Bagdad, and as Chief of the Mesopotamian Jews known as Nassi or Prince of the Captivity. Educated in Europe; as a banker he contributed largely to the charitable institutions of Bombay, and erected numerous buildings for public purposes at his own cost; made a member of the Bombay Legislative Council, 1868; Knight, 1872; Baronet, 1890. Married, 1838, Hannah, daughter of E. Moses. On the 24th, at Witchampton, Dorset, aged 97, **Rev. Carr John Glyn**, son of Sir R. C. Glyn, first baronet. Educated at Christ Church, Oxford; B.A., 1824; appointed Rector of Hinton Parva, 1828, and Witchampton, 1830. Married, first, 1831, Augusta, daughter of John Granville; and second, 1839, Anna, daughter of Captain W. H. Cleather, of the Ceylon Regiment. On the 26th, at Paris, aged 69, **Paul Amand Challemel Lacour**. Born at Avranches; educated at the Lycée St. Louis and the Ecole Normale of Paris; appointed Professor of Philosophy at Paris, 1849, and Limoges, 1851; imprisoned and afterwards proscribed; lectured in Belgium and Germany; appointed Professor of French at the Zürich Polytechnic, 1856; returned to Paris, 1859, and occupied himself with journalism; appointed Prefect of the Rhone, 1870; Deputy for the Bouches du Rhone, 1872, and joined the Union Républicaine; elected Senator, 1876; Ambassador to London, 1880-2; Vice-President of the Senate, 1888, and President, 1893; author of "Philosophie Individualiste" (1864), etc. On the 26th, at Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, aged 55, **Rear-Admiral Walter Stewart, C.B.** Entered the Navy, 1854; served in H.M.S. *Curaçoa* in the Black Sea, 1854-7; in China, 1862-4; and at Suakim and in Eastern Soudan, 1884-5; Nautical Assessor to the House of Lords. On the 26th, at Drumlanrig Castle, N.B., aged 57, **Lord Alexander Victor Paget**, son of second Marquess of Anglesey. Married, 1880, Hon. Hester Alice, daughter of second Viscount Combermere. On the 26th, at Grosvenor Crescent, aged 60, **The Dowager Duchess of Leeds**, Hon. Fanny Georgiana Pitt, daughter of fourth Baron Rivers. Married, 1861, Marquess of Carmarthen, afterwards ninth Duke of Leeds. Lady of the Bedchamber to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, 1863-73. On the 26th, at Malvern, aged 83, **Lord Farnham**, James Pierce Maxwell, ninth Baron Farnham in the peerage of Ireland. Entered the Army, 1834, in 97th Regiment; served with 50th Regiment in the Crimean War, 1854-5, and was severely wounded; sat as a Conservative for Cavan, 1843-65; and unsuccessfully contested Cavan, 1880, and Tyrone, 1886. On the 27th, at Lostwithiel, aged 75, **Sir Colman Rashleigh, C.B.**, second baronet, of Prideaux, Cornwall. Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge; sat as a Liberal for East Cornwall, 1874-80. Married, 1845, Mary A., daughter of Nicholas Kendall, of Pelynt, Cornwall. On the 27th, at Harley Street, London, aged 67, **George Harley, M.D., F.R.S.** Born at Haddington; educated at Edinburgh University; M.B., 1830; studied in Paris and at various German Universities, 1851-5; appointed Curator of the Anatomical Museum, 1855, and Professor of Medical Jurisprudence at University College, London, and Physician to the Hospital; Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, 1864; the inventor of a valuable anæsthetic, and the author of several medical works. Married, 1861, Emma Jessie, daughter of James Muspratt, of Seaforth Hall, Lancashire. On the 27th, at Burley-in-Wharfedale, aged 47, **Henry Newell Martin, M.D., F.R.S.** Educated at Christ's College, Cambridge; B.A., 1874; Professor of Biology at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, U.S.A., 1875-94; author of "Practical Instruction in Elementary Biology," and other works. On the 27th, at Trelorth Hall, Bangor, North Wales, aged 78, **Richard Davies**, son of

R. Davies, of Llangefin. Sat as a Liberal for Anglesey, 1868-86; Lord-Lieutenant from 1884. Married, 1855, Annie, daughter of Rev. H. Rees, of Liverpool. On the 28th, at La Chasse, aged 70, **Lieutenant-General John Laurance Bolton**. Entered the Royal Artillery, 1845; served in the Crimean Campaign, 1854-5, and through the Indian Mutiny, 1857-8. On the 28th, at South Kensington, aged 62, **Sir Joseph George Long Innes**, son of Captain J. L. Innes, of 39th Foot. Born at Sydney, N.S.W.; educated at the King's School, Parramatta; called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, 1859; admitted to the Bar of New South Wales, 1862; District Judge in Queensland, 1862-9; elected member of the Legislative Assembly, New South Wales, 1872; Solicitor-General, 1872; Attorney-General, 1873-5; Minister of Justice, 1880-1; Judge of the Supreme Court, N.S.W., 1881. Married, 1865, Emily, daughter of Hon. John Smith, of Llanarth, Bathurst. On the 29th, at Rome, aged 73, **Cardinal Hohenlohe**, Prince Gustavis Adolphus von Hohenlohe-Schillingsfürst. Born at Rothenburg, in Bavaria; educated at the Gymnasias of Ansbach and Erfurt, and afterwards at the Universities of Bonn, Breslau, and Munich; went to Rome, 1846, to complete his studies at the Academia Ecclesiastica; ordained Priest, 1849, at Gaeta by Pius IX., then a refugee; appointed Almoner to the Pope and Bishop of Odessa *in partibus*, 1851; and a Cardinal, 1866; retired to Germany after the Vatican Council, but returned to Rome as Bishop of Albano, 1879-84, when he took the place of Archpriest of Santa Maria Maggiore. On the 30th, at Southsea, aged 65, **Lieutenant-Colonel Frederick Herbert Reid, R.M.L.I.** Entered the Service, 1849, and served through the Crimean Campaign with the Royal Marine Brigade, 1854-5. On the 30th, at Kensington, aged 72, **Surgeon-General William Munro, M.D., C.B.**, son of William Munro, Inspector-General of Hospitals. Educated at Glasgow and Edinburgh; appointed to the Army Medical Service, 1844; served with 91st Foot through the Kaffir War, 1846-7, and with 93rd Highlanders in the Crimean War, 1854-5; the Indian Mutiny, 1857-8; Principal Medical Officer in the Umballa Pass operations, 1863. Married, 1857, Maria, daughter of James Bell. On the 30th, at Bonchurch, Isle of Wight, aged 72, **John Snowdon Henry**, son of Alexander Henry, of Woodlands, Crumpsall, M.P. Sat as a Conservative for South-east Lancashire, 1868-74. Married, 1848, Annie, daughter of Thomas Wood, of Neasham, Durham. On the 31st, at London, aged 61, **Colonel Henry Payn Moore**. Entered the Commissariat Service, 1852; served with the North China Expedition, 1860; during the Taeping War, 1862; and the Zulu War and Boer Campaign, 1881.

NOVEMBER.

Admiral Sir G. H. Richards, K.C.B.—George Henry Richards, a son of Captain G. S. Richards, R.N., was born in 1820, and entered the navy on November 3, 1832. His first ship was the *Radamanthus*, in which he served for two years in the West Indies, under Admiral George Evans. In 1835 he was appointed as a midshipman in an expedition consisting of the *Sulphur* and *Starling*, then fitting out under Admiral Frederick William Beechey for a voyage of exploration and survey in the Pacific Ocean. For five years he served in the *Sulphur*, chiefly under the command of Sir Edward Belcher, on the surveys of the west coasts of South and North America, the Pacific Islands, New Guinea, and the Moluccas, and was then transferred as senior executive officer to her consort, the *Starling*, under the late Sir Henry Kellett. In this ship he was present at many of the actions of the first China War, participating in the taking of the Bogue Forts and the capture of

Canton. He returned home in 1842 and after three months' service in the *Caledonia*, under the flag of Admiral Sir David Milnes, was on July 12 of that year promoted to lieutenant. His first appointment in this rank was to the *Philomel* for a survey of the Falkland Isles under Admiral Sir B. J. Sullivan. In her Lieutenant Richards took part in the operations in the rivers Maquay and Parana in 1845-6, conducted by the French and English squadrons against Rosas, the President of the Republic of Buenos Ayres. He commanded the boats of the *Philomel* at the cutting out of a schooner in the Uruguay at night, under a heavy fire of musketry from the concealed enemy on the banks of the river, and for this plucky bit of work received the thanks of the senior officer, Sir Charles Hotham, on the quarter-deck of the *Gorgon*. In the subsequent attacks on the forts of Obligado, November 18, 1845, he was the senior lieutenant present, and commanded the small-

arm men of the *Philomel* at the storming of the batteries and the capture of the guns, which were brought off to the squadron. Upon his return to England in June, 1846, he was promoted to commander, his commission being dated back to the day of the action. The next year he resumed his old work, being appointed to the *Acheron*, in which vessel he was employed for four years surveying the coasts of New Zealand under Admiral John Lort Stokes. Returning home in 1852, Commander Richards found an expedition fitting out for the Arctic regions, to continue the search for the missing ships under Sir John Franklin. He at once volunteered for and was appointed to this service, sailing in command of the *Assistance* as second to Sir Edward Belcher in the Wellington Channel division of the expedition. While on this service he conducted several extended sledging expeditions, travelling more than 2,000 miles over the frozen sea, and being absent from the ships on this duty for a period extending over seven months. When the search party returned to England in the autumn of 1854 he was on October 21 promoted to the rank of captain.

It was not until 1856 that Captain Richards again got a ship, being appointed to the command of the *Plumper* for the survey of Vancouver Island and the coasts of British Columbia. At the same time he was nominated, conjointly with Captain Prevost, R.N., a Queen's Commissioner for settling the Oregon boundary question between Great Britain and the United States. In the *Plumper*, and subsequently in the *Hecate*, he was employed for seven years in completing the surveys of Vancouver Island and the adjacent coasts, returning to England in 1863 by the islands of the Western Pacific, Australia, and Torres Straits, making surveys and carrying chronometric distances by the way. This voyage completed his third circumnavigation of the globe.

On his arrival at home Captain Richards found himself appointed to the post of Hydrographer of the Navy. After his long and arduous labours as a scientific navigator in all parts of the world, he proved his competence as an administrator by the able manner in which he discharged the duties of this responsible post for more than ten years. In 1874 he was placed on the retired list of flag officers by a new scheme of naval retirement, having already on June 2, 1870, been

promoted to the rank of rear-admiral. His subsequent steps in rank were taken on the retired list, on which he became a vice-admiral, August 5, 1877, and an admiral, July 7, 1884.

In 1866 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and in the same year a Corresponding Member of the Academy of Science of Paris. He was also a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. After his retirement he occupied the position of managing director of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company, and under his direction many thousands of miles of submarine telegraph cables were laid in various parts of the world. When he resigned the post of managing director to this company he became chairman of the board of directors, which position he occupied till his death. In 1869 he was nominated an A.D.C. to the Queen, in 1871 a Companion of the Civil Division of the Order of the Bath, and he received the honour of knighthood in 1877. In 1888 the Knight Commandership of the Military Order of the Bath was conferred upon him.

Sir George Richards married on March 1, 1847, Mary, a daughter of Captain R. Young, R.E., who died in 1881; and, secondly, Alice Mary, a daughter of the Rev. R. S. Tabor, of Cheam, Surrey. His death took place somewhat suddenly at Bath, on November 14, where he had been ordered by his medical adviser to try the Bath waters.

Sir B. W. Richardson.—Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson was born at Somerby, Leicestershire, in 1828, and took the degree of M.D. at the University of St. Andrews, in 1851. He was a physician of much originality of mind, and of great and versatile talent. At the commencement of his professional life he was first assistant to, and afterwards in partnership with, Dr. Willis, of Barnes; and he soon became known as a very active member of the Metropolitan Counties Branch of the British Medical Association, and of other medical societies. Whilst at Barnes, in 1853 or 1854, he established the East Surrey Society for the Investigation of Cholera, which was then present in England in epidemic form; and he soon afterwards removed to London in order to devote himself more completely than the duties of general practice would allow to the pursuit of medical and physiological researches. In 1856 he obtained the Astley Cooper Triennial Prize of 300*l.* for the best

essay on the coagulation of the blood ; and soon afterwards published a paper on fibrinous deposition in the heart, which was speedily rewarded by practice as a consultant. From this time forward his life was one of incessant professional and literary activity, and at one period it was his custom to deliver at his own house courses of lectures to medical men on his own experiments and researches, or on other topics of the day. He devoted much time to the investigation of the action of anæsthetics, and to an endeavour to discover some agent which should be superior to chloroform ; but of the many compounds with which he experimented only one, the bichloride of methylene, in any way held its ground, and that only in the hands of a few administrators. In the course of this inquiry he devised a method of painless operating by freezing the surface to be cut by the local application of ether spray ; but this method, although it was received with some favour at the time, was afterwards practically abandoned. He also introduced into medical and surgical practice many valuable preparations, among others the ethylate of sodium ; and his investigations largely contributed to the attainment of a working knowledge of the properties and uses of nitrate of amyl. He endeavoured to improve the common methods of slaughtering animals for food ; and one result of his experiments in this direction was the construction of the "lethal chamber" now used at the Home for Lost Dogs for the painless extinction of life.

In 1874 he joined the ranks of the total abstainers from alcohol ; and was not always temperate in his denunciations of the use which he had abandoned. He was a frequent and always attractive popular lecturer on scientific subjects, and his industry as a writer was prodigious. Besides a romance, called "The Son of a Star," and innumerable fugitive papers in various magazines, journals, and transactions, he wrote lives of Thomas Sopwith and of Sir Edwin Chadwick ; he originated and for a time edited the *Journal of Public Health* and the *Social Science Review*, and for the last twelve years of his life he maintained a quarterly medical journal, the *Asclepiad*, every line of which was of his own composition. On the very day of his fatal seizure he had completed the revision of the proofs of a new book, entitled "Memories and Ideas." Perhaps the incident in his career which attracted

the largest amount of public attention was his description, at the Social Science Congress at Brighton in 1875, of "Hygeia," an imaginary model city of health, so built, organised and governed that disease would be banished from within its walls, and its inhabitants would die only of old age. At one period of his career he found time even for politics, and cherished a hope of entering Parliament as an advanced reformer ; but this hope was never realised.

He received the honour of knighthood in 1893, and, among other distinctions, was a Fellow of the Royal Society, of the Society of Antiquaries, of the Royal College of Physicians of London, and of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. He was M.A., M.D., and LL.D., of St. Andrews, Fothergillian gold medalist, and past President of the Medical Society of London ; President of the Medical Temperance Association and of the Society of Sanitary Inspectors, and Honorary Physician to the London Temperance Hospital, the Royal Literary Fund, the Newspaper Press Fund, and the Society of Schoolmasters.

He married (1857) Mary Jane, daughter of E. Smith, of Mortlake, and died on November 21, from an apoplectic seizure, at Manchester Square. According to his expressed wish his body was cremated.

Mr. Coventry Patmore.—Coventry Patmore was born at Woodford, in Essex, on July 23, 1823. His father, Peter George Patmore, the son of a silversmith on Ludgate Hill, had forsaken trade for literature, and became known as the friend and confidant of Hazlitt, whose "Liber Amoris" originally existed in the shape of letters addressed to him, and, less auspiciously, as the second of John Scott, editor of the *London Magazine*, in his fatal duel with Mr. Christie. At a later period he became reader to Colburn's publishing house, edited the *Court Journal*, and produced two books—"Imitations of Celebrated Authors" and "My Friends and Acquaintance." Coventry Patmore's education was chiefly conducted by his father, of whose refined taste in poetry and judicious encouragement of his own early attempts he was wont to speak in the warmest acknowledgment. His original inclination was to the study of science, and subsequently turned to theology. His intention of entering the Church was frustrated, partly by his father's in-

ability to procure him a university education, partly by doubts respecting the Church of England's ecclesiastical position. He first appeared before the world as an author in 1844, with a volume of poems on subjects taken from modern life. Their redeeming merits of originality, both of thought and phrase, attracted the notice of Lord Houghton, whose influence obtained for Patmore in 1846 an Assistant Librarianship in the British Museum. In the next year he married Emily, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Andrews, a Congregational minister. Through his father, intimate with the Jerrold circle, he had contributed some pieces of verse to *Punch*, but natural affinities now drew him away in the direction of the rising pre-Raphaelite school. Holman Hunt, Millais, and Rossetti were at the time among his most intimate friends, and their influence was visible in the principal poem of his next volume, "Tamerton Church Tower and other Poems" (1853). Patmore's diligence in the correction of his work was always exemplary and felicitous, as evinced by the reissue of the amended poems of 1844 in this very volume. More important was the inclusion of some preliminary specimens of the work which was now occupying all the time he could spare from official duties and reviewing drudgery: "The Angel in the House."

After the publication of two preliminary cantos ("The Betrothal," 1854, "The Espousals," 1856), he recoiled from the portal of Hymen, and went off at a tangent to depict the sorrows of "the love that never found his earthly close" in "Faithful for Ever" (1860). The loss of his wife, who died in 1862, rendered further treatment of his theme impossible for him. He deplored his bereavement in "The Victories of Love," the least successful of "The Angel in the House" series.

Patmore sought consolation for the loss of his wife in travel, and after a while retired from the British Museum. In 1865 he contracted a second marriage with Miss Marianne Byles, a lady of a good Gloucestershire family, who had some years before followed her pastor, Archdeacon Manning, to the Church of Rome. Patmore soon after took the same step, to the surprise of no one acquainted with his cast of mind. He settled at Hastings, and, easy in his circumstances and exempt from official cares, soon experienced a revival of the poetic faculty. The lyrical productions which resulted were privately printed as "Odes," in 1868, and gradually multiplied, until by 1879 two more volumes, "The Unknown Eros" and "Amelia," had been added to the author's poetical works. These certainly were of a nature to surprise the readers of "The Angel in the House." The mental and moral characteristics remained as of old, but instead of prosaic commonplace they were marked by an obscurity arising from excessive elevation of sentiment, combined with an over-refining subtlety and a fondness for conceits which recalled the poets of the first half of the seventeenth century. During the slow composition of these remarkable pieces he had experienced serious domestic afflictions in the death of his second wife, in memory of whom he erected a handsome Roman Catholic church. In 1881 Patmore married Miss Mary Robson, and some years afterwards they removed to Lymington, where he died on November 26, after a very short illness. In his later years he became known as a critical writer, contributing to various papers and reviews. He published three volumes of his essays: "Principle in Art," "Religio Poetæ," and "Rod, Root, and Flower," the last chiefly of a religious character.

On the 2nd, at Bramham Park, Leeds, aged 80, **George Lane Fox**, eldest son of George Lane Fox, M.P. Educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford; a typical country gentleman, sportsman, and master of foxhounds. Married, 1837, Katherine, daughter of John Stein, M.P. On the 2nd, at Dublin, aged 69, **Bishop of Killaloe**, Right Rev. Frederick Richards Wynne, D.D., son of Rev. Henry Wynne, of Dublin. Educated at Trinity College, Dublin; appointed Incumbent of St. Mary's, Kilkenny, 1864; Canon of Christ Church, 1862, and of St. Patrick's Cathedral, 1874; Professor of Pastoral Theology in the University of Dublin, 1888; chosen by the Bench of Bishops to be Bishop of Killaloe, 1893, the Synod having failed to elect. Married, 1860, Theodora Susan, daughter of Rev. John Darley. He was found dead in the road near his house, having dropped down whilst hurrying to fetch medical aid for his wife, who had passed away during his absence. On the 2nd, at Netherfield, Ware, aged 84, **Sir Charles Booth**, third baronet, second son of William Booth, of Roydon House, Essex. Educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. He was great-nephew of Sir Felix Booth, who was created a baronet for his interest in Polar discovery. On

the 3rd, at Chester-le-Street, aged 84, **William Armstrong**, one of the most experienced mining engineers in the North of England. Educated at Dr. Bruce's Academy, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and at Edinburgh University; served his time at Killingworth, Northumberland; came prominently into notice by his introduction of the use of wire rope for mining purposes, which led (1843) to a protracted strike of the colliers. He owned one of the best collections of water-colour drawings in England. On the 4th, at Hastings, aged 65, **Lieutenant Edward D. Young, R.N.** Educated at the Royal Naval School, Greenwich, and entered the Royal Navy as a boy, 1844; served as gunner on board H.M.S. *Gorgon*, 1854-62; commanded Dr. Livingstone's vessel, the *Pioneer*, on the Zambesi and Shiré Rivers, 1862-4; appointed to command the Livingstone Search Expedition, 1867; appointed Divisional Officer of Coastguard; conducted to Lake Nyassa the Free Church of Scotland Mission, 1875-7; retired as Honorary Lieutenant, 1891. On the 5th, at Palace Court, Bayswater, aged 80, **The Countess d'Avigdor**, Rachel, daughter of Sir Isaac Lyon Goldsmid, F.R.S. Married, 1840, Count Solomon Henri d'Avigdor, who received, but never assumed, the title of a French duke. His wife devoted her life to promoting education and active forms of charity. On the 5th, at Meran, aged 68, **Duke William of Würtemberg**. Born at Karlsruhe in Upper Silesia; entered the Austrian Army and served with great distinction in the Austrian Campaign of 1848; in the Franco-Italian War, 1860, at both Magenta and Solferino; in the campaign against Denmark, 1864, when he was wounded; and in the Austro-Prussian War, 1866, when he commanded the 2nd Army Corps. In 1869 he took a prominent part in the pacification of Bosnia and Herzegovina. He was head of the Protestant branch of the ducal line and next heir to the Crown of Würtemberg. On the 5th, at Valentia Island, aged 77, **Dowager Lady Fitzgerald**, Julia, daughter of Peter Bodkin Hussey, of Farrinskilla House. Married, 1838, Sir Peter Fitzgerald, nineteenth Knight of Kerry. Created a Baronet, 1860. On the 6th, at Paris, aged 55, **Monsignor Maurice d'Hulst**, Rector of the Catholic Institute in Paris and Deputy for Brest, son of Comte d'Hauteroche, afterwards Comte d'Hulst. Born in Paris and brought up in intimacy with the children of Louis Philippe; ordained, 1865; Chaplain to the Press Ambulance during the siege of Paris, 1870, having escaped from Sedan; appointed Vicar-General of the Diocese of Paris, 1875, and Rector of the Catholic Institute, 1876; succeeded Père Monsabré as special preacher at Notre Dame, 1890, and to Monsignor Freppel's seat in the Chamber, 1892. On the 7th, at Caterham, Surrey, aged 80, **Rev. Josiah Viney**, an influential Congregational Minister at Highgate and Caterham, and the author of several religious works. On the 8th, at Ravensdale Park, Newry, aged 80, **Baroness Clermont**, Lady Louisa Grace Wandesford Butler, daughter of first Marquess of Ormonde. Married, 1840, Thomas Fortescue. Created Baron Clermont, 1852. On the 8th, at Plön, near Potsdam, aged 68, **Dr. Emil Wilhelm Frommel**, Court Chaplain and member of the Prussian Upper Consistory, son of a distinguished artist and engraver. Born at Karlsruhe; studied theology at the Universities of Halle, Erlanger, and Heidelberg; appointed Army Chaplain at Berlin, 1869; and Court Chaplain in 1872; afterwards being selected as religious instructor to the Emperor's sons. He was also the author of several popular devotional works. On the 8th, at Mundesley, Norfolk, aged 83, **Rev. William Drake**. Educated at St. John's College, Cambridge; B.A., 1835 (Second Class Classics and fifteenth Senior Optimist); Headmaster of College School, Leicester, 1838-41; Second Master of Grammar School, Coventry, 1841-57; Vicar of Holy Trinity, Coventry, 1856-64, when he was appointed Rector of Sedgbrook, Lincolnshire; Chaplain to the Queen, 1862; author of various works of Biblical Criticism. On the 9th, at Stockholm, aged 55, **Professor Hugo Gylden**. Born at Helsingfors of Greek parentage. Educated at Helsingfors University and at the Observatory at Pultowa under Struve; Director of the Observatory at Stockholm, 1871-84, when he was called to a similar post at Göttingen; the author of numerous scientific treatises. On the 9th, at Liss, Hants, aged 62, **Admiral Henry Duncan Grant, C.B.**, son of J. Grant, Paymaster, R.N. Entered the Navy, 1847; served in the *Baltic*, 1854-5; in *Pearl* brig during the Indian Mutiny, 1857-9; commanded *Serapis*, 1870-3; *Triumph*, 1874-5; *Narcissus*, 1875-8; Admiral Superintendent at Devonport, 1885-8. Married, 1859, Agnes, daughter of Commander W. V. Lee, R.N. On the 9th, at Witley, Surrey, aged 62, **William Henry Stone**, son of William Stone, of Dulwich Hill. Educated at Harrow and Trinity College, Cambridge; B.A., 1857 (First Class in Classics); Fellow of Trinity College, 1859-64; sat as a Liberal for Portsmouth, 1865-73. Married, 1864, Melicent, daughter of Sir Arthur Helpe, K.C.B. On the 11th, at Monrovia, aged 49, **Hon. Joseph Cheeseman**,

President of the Republic of Liberia. On the 11th, at Neuilly, Paris, aged 49, **Mrs. Scott-Siddons**, Mary Frances, daughter of Captain William Siddons, 35th Bengal Native Infantry, a grandson of Mrs. Siddons, the actress. First appeared in London, 1867, as Rosalind; acted much in the United States. Married Captain Henry Scott. On the 11th, at Westhope, Salop, aged 59, **Major Frederick Carr Swinnerton Dyer**, third son of Sir Thomas Swinnerton Dyer, ninth baronet. Served with 17th Foot in the Crimean War, 1854-5; and in Canada, 1857-9; and with 75th Regiment in India, 1863-8. Married, first, 1861, Selina Maria Anne, daughter of Rev. Windsor Richards, of St. Andrews, Glamorganshire; and second, 1868, Frances Margaret, only daughter of Sir William Ogle Carr, Chief Justice of Ceylon. On the 12th, at Brighton, aged 57, **Colonel Edward Swalman Reynolds**. Entered the Bombay Army, 1859, and joined the Sind Horse; served in civil appointments on the Sind frontier, 1871-7; and in Beluchistan, 1877-9; took part in the Afghan Campaign, 1879-80; Political Resident or Agent successively at Pishin, Jacolabad, Melthan, Kotah, and at the Courts of Baroda and Gwalior. On the 13th, at Campden Hill, Kensington, aged 72, **Richard Beavis**, an artist of considerable repute in oils and water-colours. Born at Exmouth; studied at the School of Design, Somerset House, 1846-8, and obtained several prizes for decorative art in London and Paris, but subsequently took to painting landscapes and cattle pieces. On the 13th, at Southsea, aged 79, **Major-General George Mein**. Entered the Army, 1835; served with 13th Regiment during the Afghan War, 1838-43; dangerously wounded at the storming of Khoord Kabul Pass, 1842; and mentioned in vote of thanks to the Army of the Indus moved by Sir R. Peel, 1843. Married, first, 1860, Maria, daughter of F. R. Cowe; and second, 1892, Mascelles, daughter of R. L. Burnett, M.I.C.E. On the 13th, at Coventry, aged 80, **Francis Alfred Skidmore**, son of F. Skidmore. Apprenticed at an early age to a metal worker, he started first at West Orchard, and by degrees became a well-known craftsman, to whom were due the entrance gates at Eaton Hall, the metal canopy of the Albert Memorial, Hyde Park, and the metal work in twenty-four cathedrals, fourteen colleges (eight at Oxford and six at Cambridge), 300 churches, etc. On the 14th, at Upper Grosvenor Street, aged 68, **Roger Eykyn**, son of Richard Eykyn, of Hornsey and Shackleton Hall, Salop. Entered the Stock Exchange at an early age and took an active part in the affairs of the city of London; sat as a Liberal for Windsor, 1866-74, but was defeated then; unsuccessful also at Taunton, 1880. Married, first, 1851, Maria Prinalo, daughter of George Schlotel; and second, 1868, Hon. Mary, daughter of sixth Lord Vaux, of Harrowden. On the 15th, at Little Over, Derby, aged 68, **John Noble**, eldest son of James Noble, surgeon, of Kendal. Educated at the Friends' School, Kendal, and intended for Holy Orders, but entered the Railway Clearing House, 1845; appointed Accountant to the Midland Railway, 1866; Assistant General Manager, 1868; and General Manager, 1880-92; known as the originator of the "John Noble expresses" which opened up the West Riding to the Midland Railway. On the 15th, at Guildford, aged 73, **General Sir Robert Onesiphorus Bright, G.C.B.**, second son of Robert Bright, of Abbot's Leigh, Bristol. Joined the Army, 1843; served with 19th Regiment in the Crimean Campaign, 1854-5, with great distinction; commanded First Brigade, Hazara Field Force, 1868; served in the Afghan War, 1879-80, in command of Khyber Line Field Force, for which he received the thanks of Parliament. Married, 1856, Catherine, daughter of Sir William Miles, baronet. On the 16th, at Paris, aged 27, **Duchesse Decazes**, a daughter of Mr. Singer, the American sewing-machine maker. On the 16th, at High Bickington, Devon, aged 75, **General Percy Fortescue Gardiner**, eldest son of George Gardiner, of Upcott, Somerset. Entered the Bengal Army, 1840; served in the Punjab War, 1848-9; the North-west Frontier War, 1863 and 1877. Married, 1881, Elizabeth Anne, daughter of Samuel Payne, Registrar of the Leeds Bankruptcy Court. On the 17th, at Berne, aged 85, **General von Wyttenbach**. Born in Switzerland; took service in the Papal Guard and afterwards with the King of Naples; defended Palermo against Garibaldi, and subsequently surrendered at Gaeta on its capture by the Italian troops. On the 17th, at Hampstead, aged 93, **Frederic Hill**, son of Thomas Hill and brother of Sir Rowland Hill, the author of the penny postage. Born at Birmingham; assisted his brother till 1833 in carrying on Hazlewood School; appointed one of the first Inspectors of Prisons, 1835-54; Assistant Secretary of the Post Office, 1854-76; published a volume of "Reminiscences" (1893). On the 17th, at Rapallo, Italy, aged 71, **Sir Edmund Grimani Hornby**, son of Thomas Hornby, of London. Entered at the Middle Temple, 1845; called to the Bar, 1848; appointed Private Secretary to his uncle, Mr. H. Southern, British Minister at Lisbon and Rio de

Janeiro; Commissioner in the Turkish War, 1858; appointed Judge of the Supreme Court at Constantinople to organise the Consular Courts of the Levant, 1857-65; Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of China and Japan, 1865-76. Married, first, 1850, Emelia Bithynia, daughter of Count Maceroni; second, 1863, Mary Hannah, daughter of Thomas Hudson, of Hull; and third, 1876, Emily Augusta, daughter of Captain Roberts, of New York. On the 19th, at Southsea, aged 59, **Surgeon-Major-General Edward Corrigan Markey**. Educated at Queen's College, Ireland; entered the Army Medical Service, 1859; served in the Afghan War, 1879-80, with great distinction; and in the Nile Campaign, 1884-5, having charge of the movable field hospital with the desert force; principal medical officer in the Chin Lushai Expedition, 1889-90; and at Portsmouth since 1894. On the 19th, at Wernigerode, Germany, aged 59, **Prince Otto zu Stolberg Wernigerode**, son of Count Hermann Stolberg, of Stolberg, Koenigstein, Rochefort, Wernigerode, and Hohenstein. Chief President of Hanover, 1867-73; entered the Imperial Diet, 1871; represented the German Emperor at Vienna, 1876; Vice-President of the Prussian Ministry, 1878; Lord Chamberlain, 1884; and Representative Minister of the Royal House, 1885-94, having received in 1890 the title of Prince; President of the Upper House of the Prussian Diet since 1893. Married, 1863, Countess Anne Elizabeth, daughter of Henry LXIII., Prince of Reuss. On the 20th, at Buckminster Park, Grantham, aged 64, **Lady Huntingtower**, Katharine Elizabeth Camilla, youngest daughter of Sir Joseph Burke, of Glinsk, eleventh baronet. Married, 1851, Lord Huntingtower, eldest son of eighth Earl of Dysart. On the 20th, at Millport, aged 90, **David Robertson, LL.D.**, the Cumbrae naturalist. Born at Glasgow; devoted himself to the study of the fauna of the west coast of Scotland; worked in connection with Dr. Long and John Murray in marine dredging operations. On the 23rd, at Cheltenham, aged 79, **General Sir Charles William Dunbar Staveley, G.C.B.**, son of Lieut.-Gen. William Staveley, C.B. Born at Boulogne; educated at the Scottish Naval and Military Academy, Edinburgh; entered the Army, 1835, and served in Canada, Hong-Kong, and Mauritius; in the Crimean Campaign in command of 44th Regiment, 1854-5; China War, 1862, against the Taepings, for which he received the thanks of the Government; and selected General Gordon to command the Chinese troops; second in command of the Abyssinian Expedition, 1867-8, receiving the thanks of Parliament; commanded Western District, 1869-74; and Commander-in-Chief of Bombay, 1874-9; Colonel of 36th Regiment, 1876, and First Battalion of Essex Regiment, 1883. Married, 1864, Susan Millicent, daughter of Charles William Minet, of Baldoyne, Kent. On the 25th, at Skibbereen, aged 64, **Right Rev. William Fitzgerald, D.D.**, Bishop of Ross (R.C.). Educated at Dr. Riordan's Seminary, Midleton, and at the Irish College, Paris; successively Parish Priest of Conna, Canon of Cork, and President of St. Colman's College, Fermoy; consecrated Bishop of Ross, 1877. On the 25th, at Hanfield Park, aged 85, **Lieutenant-Colonel George Augustus Vernon**, youngest son of General H. C. E. Vernon, of Hilton Park, Staffordshire. Entered 33rd Regiment, and served subsequently in Coldstream Guards. Married, 1845, Mary, daughter of Admiral Bertie Cator. On the 25th, at Paris, aged 84, **Emanuel Arago**, son of the eminent astronomer of the same name. Joined the Republican party, and went in 1848 as Ambassador to Prussia, but resigned as a protest against the Roman Expedition; practised as a barrister, 1851-69, when he was elected a Deputy for Paris; appointed on the collapse of the Empire Minister of Justice, 1871; and Minister of the Interior, 1872-7; a steady supporter of M. Thiers; Ambassador at Berne, 1880-94; and on M. Carnot's assassination was put forward as a candidate for the Presidency, but only polled twenty-seven votes. On the 25th, at Tintern, aged 87, **John Loraine Baldwin**, only son of Lieutenant-Colonel John Baldwin, of Eltham, and was one of the founders of the body of cricketers known as "I Zingari," and its perpetual Vice-President. Edited (1864) "The Laws of Short Whist," as framed by the Portland and Arlington Clubs. Married, 1873, Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. Algernon Peyton, and widow of Lord Francis J. Russell, R.N. On the 26th, at Welbeck Street, London, aged 54, **Sir Frederick Napier Broome, K.C.M.G.**, eldest son of Rev. Frederick Broome, Rector of Kenley, Salop. Born in Canada; educated in England; and emigrated to New Zealand, 1857, where he occupied himself with farming, taking an interest also in Colonial affairs, and published two volumes of poetry; returning to London he acted as Secretary to several Commissions; and acted as Special Correspondent of the *Times* at the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh and elsewhere; sent on a special mission to Natal, 1875; appointed Colonial Secretary at Natal, 1875-7; Mauritius, 1877-80; Lieutenant-Governor of Western Australia, 1883-90, when he

was appointed Governor of Trinidad and Tobago. Married, 1865, Mary, daughter of Walter G. Stewart, Island Secretary of Jamaica, and widow of Colonel Sir George R. Baker, K.C.B., authoress of "Our Station Life in New Zealand" and other works. On the 26th, at Hampstead, aged 49, **Mathilde Blind**, step-daughter of Karl Blind, the distinguished writer and refugee, who had taken up his residence in England. Educated at Zürich, and was first urged to write by Mazzini, who influenced her greatly. After much magazine and review writing she published "The Prophecy of St. Oran" (1881), "The Heather on Fire" (1885), a fine poem, "The Ascent of Man" (1889), and several novels. On the 26th, at Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A., aged 72, **Benjamin Apthorp Gould**, a distinguished American astronomer. Born at Boston; graduated at Harvard University, and afterwards studied at Paris, Berlin, and Göttingen; Director of the Dudley Observatory, Albany, N.Y., 1856-9; organised the Argentine Observatory at Cordoba, 1870. On the 27th, at Chelsea, aged 87, **Mrs. Brookfield**, Jane Octavia, youngest daughter of Sir Charles Abraham Elton, sixth baronet. Married, 1841, Rev. W. B. H. Brookfield, Vicar of Somerby, Lincolnshire, and one of H.M. Inspectors of Schools. She was the intimate friend and correspondent of Thackeray and other literary persons. On the 27th, at Nice, aged 44, **Prince Carl Egon von Furstenberg**. Succeeded his father as the possessor of one of the largest territorial estates in Western Germany, and hereditary member of the Upper Houses of Prussia, Baden, and Würtemberg; served in the 2nd Dragoon Guards of the Prussian Army, but resigned, and was appointed a Marshal of the German Court; was some time proprietor of the Munich *Allgemeine Zeitung*; and in 1893 entered the Imperial Diet. Married, 1881, Princess Dorothea Valencas, daughter of Duc de Talleyrand-Périgord, Duc de Sagan. On the 27th, at Dinard, France, aged 66, **Major-General Charles Frederick Boulton**, son of Major Boulton, of the Bengal Army. Entered the Bengal Army, 1851; he was engaged in several civil employments, and was Superintendent of the Central Indian Police, 1866-77. Married, 1875, Frances, daughter of J. W. Tucker, of New York. On the 27th, in London, aged 89, **W. F. Ainsworth**. Educated for a surgeon at Edinburgh University, where he graduated, 1827, and then entered the Ecole des Minés, Paris; started the *Edinburgh Journal of Natural and Geographical Science*, 1829; appointed Surgeon to the Cholera Hospital of St. George's, Hanover Square, London, 1831; Surgeon and Geologist to the Euphrates Expedition under Colonel Chesney, 1835-8, and to an Expedition to the Christians in Chaldea, 1839-41; author of "Researches in Assyria, Babylonia, etc." (1838), "Travels in Chaldea, America, etc." (1842), "Travels in the Track of the Ten Thousand" (1844), "Lares and Penates" (1853), "Geographical Commentary on Xenophon's 'Anabasis'" (1854), "Personal Narrative of the Euphrates Expedition" (1888); one of the founders of the West London Hospital. On the 28th, at Rufford Park, Notts, aged 78, **Lord Savile, G.C.B.**, John Savile Lumley, natural son of Earl of Scarborough. Entered the Foreign Office, 1841; *Attaché* at Berlin (1842) and St. Petersburg (1849); Secretary of Legation at Washington (1854), Madrid (1858), St. Petersburg (1859), Constantinople (1860); Envoy to Saxony (1866), Switzerland (1867), Belgium (1868); and Ambassador to Italy, 1883; created a Peer, 1888, on his retirement; Trustee of the National Gallery, and an intelligent supporter of the fine arts. On the 28th, at Paris, aged 67, **Count Moltke-Huitfeldt**, Danish Minister in Paris since 1860. Born in the island of Fünen. Married a daughter of Count Seebach, Saxon Minister in Paris during the Empire. On the 28th, at Berlin, aged 63, **Princess Elizabeth von Lippe Detmold**, daughter of Prince Albert, of Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt. Married, 1852, Prince Leopold. On the 29th, at Balyfordbury, Herts, aged 86, **William Robert Baker**, surviving son of William Baker, and a lineal descendant of Jacob Tonson, the younger. Educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford; High Sheriff of Herts, 1836; the possessor of the historical collection of the "Kit-Kat Club" portraits by Kneller, including the leading Whigs of 1688; and well known as a cultivator of rare trees, especially conifers. Married, 1838, Anna, eldest daughter of H. Fynes-Clinton. On the 29th, at Eaton Place, S.W., aged 68, **Pascoe du Pré Grenfell**, eldest son of Pascoe St. Leger Grenfell, of Maesteg. Largely engaged in city finance, and the founder of several important undertakings. Married, 1858, Sofia, daughter of Admiral Grenfell, of the Brazilian Navy. On the 29th, at Jena, aged 61, **Professor Alexander Buckner**. Born at St. Petersburg; studied at Heidelberg, Jena, and Berlin; appointed Professor of History in the Law School, St. Petersburg, 1861; of Russian History at Odessa, 1867; and to the same chair at Dorpat, 1872, and subsequently at Kazan; retired, 1888, devoting his leisure to writing a history of Russia. On the 30th, at

New York, aged 60, **William Steinway**. Born at Seesen, near Brunswick, son of Henry Engelhand Steinway, a pianoforte manufacturer; founded the New York house, 1853, and in 1872 completed the 25,000th piano; was an active member of the party which broke up the Tammany Ring, 1871; and was director of various industrial undertakings.

DECEMBER.

Sir John Brown.—Sir John Brown, the pioneer of armour-plate manufacture for the defence of ships of war, died on December 27, at Bromley, Kent, aged 80. He was a native of Sheffield, and received his education at a local private school. He was first apprenticed to the factory business, and afterwards engaged in the manufacture of files and table cutlery. The apprentice stepped so speedily to the front that on reaching his majority he was invited to become a partner, which offer he was unable to accept through lack of capital. His employer offered him his factoring business and volunteered money to carry it on. John Brown's father and uncle guaranteed 500*l.* to a local bank, and this modest credit was his start in life. In 1848 he invented the conical steel buffer spring, and he was soon producing them at the rate of 150 sets a week. The first pair of conical buffers ever made went to Wales, the second to Scotland, and the third to Ireland, the London and North-Western Railway leading the way in England. In 1864 he concentrated his business in Saville Street, Sheffield, where he acquired an establishment, afterwards extended and re-christened the Atlas Works, which covered twenty-five acres. It then occurred to the owner that the demand for iron would justify its production for steel-making purposes. He erected ten converting furnaces on the south side of the Midland Railway for supplying the wants of the town as well as of the Atlas Works. The result of his enterprise was to make Sheffield practically almost independent of Sweden or any other country from which masses of iron for manufacturing purposes used to be drawn.

The greatest of Sir John's discoveries was in 1860. Returning from a trip on the Continent, he came by way of Toulon, where the French ship *La Gloire* put into harbour. This was a timber-built 90 gun three-decker cut down into "an exaggerated corvette," with 40 big guns, and hammered plate armour $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick, 5 feet long, and 2 feet wide. The British Admiralty

were so uneasy at the action of the French Government in putting *La Gloire* into commission that ten 90 and 100 gun timber-built ships were stopped in their progress in order to be cut down and plated like the French vessel. Sir John was not allowed on board, but after thoroughly examining the craft from the shore he came to the conclusion that the hammered armour-plates used in clothing her could be rolled. By this time he had become Mayor of Sheffield, and the fame of his works had induced Lord Palmerston, then the Premier, to visit the town as his guest. The Premier saw rolled a plate 3 feet 9 inches wide, 18 feet 6 inches long, $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick, and upwards of 6 tons weight. In April, 1863, the Lords of the Admiralty, headed by the Duke of Somerset, visited Sheffield and witnessed the opening of a new rolling-mill which the owner of the Atlas Works had put down. They saw several plates rolled from $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches to $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick and 40 feet long. At the close a plate 12 inches thick and 15 feet to 20 feet in length was rolled, and thus was practically demonstrated the great discovery which changed our ships from hearts of oak to masses of iron. Armour-plates were perfected by their inventor with great enterprise. He was the first to roll plates of large dimensions, and he kept the lead to the last. In the great struggle of plates *versus* projectiles, he kept plates well to the front, and latterly they were rolled 24 inches thick. The Royal Commission on Armour-plates rewarded Sir John by ordering nearly all the plates they required from his works, and in a few years he had sheathed fully three-fourths of the entire British Navy.

The Atlas Works increased until they gave employment to 4,000 artisans in the manufacture of armour-plates, ordnance forgings, railway bars, steel springs, buffers, tires, axles, etc. He was the first successfully to develop the Bessemer process and to introduce the manufacture of steel rails, which are now, owing to modern competition and high railway rates, one of Shef-

field's lost industries. In the first year of his business his turnover was 3,000*l.* During the year previous to its being converted into a limited company it was 3,000,000*l.* Foreign Governments, hearing of his great armour-plates, applied to him, but he refused to supply any other Power until he had obtained the consent of the home Government.

He married, in 1839, Elizabeth, daughter of B. Schofield of Sheffield; was knighted in 1867; was twice Mayor of his town, and twice Master Cutler; and declined in 1863 an offer to represent it in Parliament.

Sir Alexander Milne, Bart., G.C.B.—Sir Alexander Milne was a son of Sir David Milne, who commanded the *Seine*, 48, upon the occasion of her victorious conflict with the *Vengeance*, 52, on August 21, 1800. Alexander, who was born in 1806, was from his childhood intended for the Royal Navy, and in 1817 he entered the Royal Naval College. Two years later he embarked in the *Leander*, 50, his father's flagship on the North American Station. He subsequently served in the *Conway*, 26; *Ramillies*, 74; *Ganges*, 84; *Albion*, 74; *Ganges* again, and *Cadmus*, 10, on the South American, West Indian, Home, and Brazilian Stations; and was promoted to be lieutenant on September 8, 1827, and to be commander on November 25, 1830. In 1836 he was appointed to the *Snake*, 16, and sent to cruise in the West Indies for the repression of the slave trade. While on this station he captured on November 23, 1837, the Portuguese brig *Arrogante*, with 406 slaves, and on December 5, 1837, the Spanish schooner *Mathilda*, with 259 slaves on board. The *Snake*, during his command of her, was twice struck by lightning. In 1839 he was posted as captain to the *Crocodile*, 26, and in her succeeded in capturing the Spanish slaver *Mercedita*, and then proceeded northward to take charge of the Newfoundland and Labrador fisheries. In 1840 he removed to the *Cleopatra*, 26, and, returning to the West Indies, took the Spanish schooner *Secundo Rosario*, laden with 284 slaves. He resumed command of the *Crocodile*, and proceeded again on fishery protection duty till he came home and paid off. From 1842 to 1845 he was flag-captain in the *Caledonia*, 120, to his father, who was then Port-Admiral at Devonport; in 1846-7 he held a similar appointment in the *St. Vincent*, 120, to Sir Charles Ogle, Port-Admiral

at Portsmouth; and to Sir Charles Napier, who was in command in the Channel. From 1847 to 1859 he was a Junior Lord of the Admiralty. While thus serving he was in 1858 promoted to be rear-admiral and made a K.C.B. (civil).

In 1860 Sir Alexander hoisted his flag in the *Nile*, 90, as Commander-in-Chief on the North American Station. In 1863 the admiral made representations to the Duke of Somerset, then First Lord of the Admiralty, with regard to the restrictions which existed in the matter of British flag-officers visiting American ports, and received permission to proceed to New York. This he did in the *Nile* in company with the *Immortalité*, *Medea*, and *Nimble*. His reception, which he had been warned might be unsatisfactory owing to the strong feeling which had arisen through the Civil War and its attendant circumstances, turned out to be of the most cordial description, and the effect was calculated to dissipate a great deal of friction and misunderstanding. After his return to England Sir Alexander was in 1865 made a vice-admiral, and in June of the following year he went back for two years and a half to the Admiralty as Senior Naval Lord. In April, 1869, he accepted the appointment of Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean, and hoisted his flag in the ironclad *Lord Warden*. In the meantime he had attained the rank of admiral, and in the following August commanded the combined Mediterranean and Channel Squadrons. From 1872 to 1876 he was again Senior Naval Lord, and in the latter year was created a baronet, and on June 10, 1881, Admiral of the Fleet.

His service at the Admiralty brought to a close the active part of Sir Alexander's professional career; but it marked neither the beginning nor the end of his intimate association with work of a more general character. He had been a Royal Commissioner for the Exhibition of 1851 and for the Paris Exhibition of 1867; in 1879 he served as chairman of a committee which was ordered to inquire into the state of the colonial defences; and in 1881 he was a member of the Royal Commission on the Defence of British Possessions and Commerce Abroad.

He married, in 1850, Euphemia, daughter of Archibald Cochrane of Ashkirk, Roxburgh, and died on December 29, at Inveresk House, Musselburgh, after a short illness.

Mr. Bertram Wodehouse Currie. — Mr. Bertram Wodehouse Currie, whose death occurred on December 29, at Richmond Terrace, Whitehall, was born in 1827, the second son of Mr. Raikes Currie, of Minley Manor, Hants, a banker in Cornhill. His mother was a daughter of the second Baron Wodehouse. Mr. Currie was educated at Eton, and then travelled abroad, thus acquiring the mastery of foreign languages. On returning home he entered his father's banking business, which in 1864 was amalgamated with the firm of Glyn, Mills & Co., and which from that time forth was known by the name of Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co.

In December, 1880, he was appointed to serve upon the board of the India Council, where his great knowledge of finance was eminently useful. After ten years' service he was reappointed for a further term in 1890, and finally retired in 1895. In 1885 it was largely through his instrumentality that Glyn's adopted the form of a joint-stock company with unlimited liability, and that it was the first of the private banks to publish a balance-sheet.

In 1890, on the occasion of the famous Baring crisis, Mr. Currie's power and resolution were most conspicuously displayed. On November 11, 1890, he was selected for his known friendship with Lord Revelstoke, and for his business qualities, to look into the affairs of Messrs. Baring, and at the instance of the Right Hon. William Lidderdale, then governor of the Bank of England, undertook the task, in company with Mr. Benjamin Buck Greene, a director of the Bank of England. It was in consequence of their report, which showed that there was a surplus of assets over liabilities, that the Bank of England agreed to make the required advances, although the bills payable by the firm amounted to 15,750,000*l.* In pursuance of this determination the governor of the Bank recommended the directors to undertake the liquidation of the estate

on the security of a guarantee to be obtained from the bankers of London. The Bank itself headed this guarantee fund by a contribution of 1,000,000*l.*, and Mr. Currie followed on behalf of his firm with 500,000*l.* During the day, November 14, the private banks and cognate firms, such as the Rothschilds, contributed an amount making a total of 3,500,000*l.*, and with the assistance of the joint-stock banks and the county banks the total subsequently rose to 18,000,000*l.*

In 1892 Mr. Currie was chosen, among others, to represent this country at the International Monetary Conference at Brussels. The astute politicians of the United States had pressed this conference upon Europe in the hope of securing "bimetallism." Their plans were almost unanimously rejected by the representatives of the Powers, and Mr. Currie bore his part in the defence of sound principles in a memorable speech delivered towards the close of the proceedings. In 1893 he was a member of the committee which, sitting under the presidency of Lord Herschell, decided upon sanctioning the closing of the Indian mints to the free coinage of silver. In the same year he became High Steward of Kingston-on-Thames, besides which office he held those of J.P. for Surrey, and, in 1892, High Sheriff of London. In 1894 he sat upon the Commission on the Financial Relations between Great Britain and Ireland. In 1895 it was he who, more than any other man, initiated the Gold Standard Defence Association, formed by the merchants and bankers of London to recall to the public recollection the plain doctrines of sound finance. It was this that was the main interest of the two closing years of his life.

Mr. Currie married, in 1860, Caroline, daughter of Sir W. L. Young, fourth baronet. He entered the Roman Catholic Church a few months before his death, which was occasioned by cancer in the tongue, afterwards extending to the neck.

On the 1st, at South Kensington, aged 74, **Rev. Hubert Ashton Holden, LL.D.** Educated at King Edward's School, Birmingham, and Trinity College, Cambridge; Senior Classic, 1845; Fellow of Trinity, 1847; Vice-Principal of Cheltenham College, 1853-8; and Head Master of Queen Elizabeth's School, Ipswich, 1858-83; author of "*Foliorum Silvula*" (1852), of which twelve editions appeared in his lifetime, and edited several classical works for the Cambridge University Press. On the 1st, at Heligoland, aged 82, **Heinrich Gätke**, a painter and naturalist. Born in Berlin, whence he fled in 1848, being mixed up with the Liberal political movement. The vessel in which he was escaping to England was wrecked on Heligoland, where Gätke remained. Married a native, thereby becoming a denizen. Was Government Secretary under several successive English Governors until the annexation of the island. He devoted himself to the study of the migratory

birds using Heligoland as a resting place, and his magnificent collection was purchased for the Biological Museum there. On the 2nd, at Hohenheim, Württemberg, aged 77, **Professor Emil von Wolff**. Born at Flensburg; graduated in science at Berlin, 1843; appointed Chemical Assistant in the University of Halle, 1843; Instructor in Agricultural Chemistry at Bräsa, 1847, and at Möckeln, near Leipzig, 1850; called to the Chair of Agricultural Chemistry at Hohenheim, 1854; the author of several works on stock-feeding, farming, etc. On the 3rd, at Bashford Rectory, Horncastle, aged 77, **Rev. the Hon. Thomas Edwardes**, son of second Lord Kensington. Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge; B.A., 1841; Rector of Brougham, Westmorland, 1846, and of Belshford, 1863. Married, 1863, Hon. Alice Eleanora, daughter of second Lord Brougham. On the 3rd, at Chichester, aged 82, **Right Rev. Edward Wyndham Tufnell, D.D.**, son of John Charles Tufnell, of Walcot, Bath. Educated at Eton and Wadham College, Oxford; B.A. and Fellow, 1837; Rector of Beachystoke, Wilts, 1846; SS. Peter and Paul, Marlborough, 1857; first Bishop of Brisbane, 1859-75; Vicar of Croydon, 1879; Canon of Chichester and Vicar of Felpham, 1882. Married, 1847, Jane, daughter of J. Jolliffe Tufnell, of Langleys, Essex. On the 3rd, at South Kensington, aged 69, **Major-General Charles John Fowler, R.E.**, son of Prebendary Luke Fowler, of Wellbrook, Co. Kilkenny. Entered the Army, 1847; served through the Kaffir War, 1851-3. Married, 1862, Gertrude, daughter of Colonel Cortlandt Taylor. On the 4th, at Wimbledon, aged 70, **Colonel John Stephen Ross**, son of Colonel Archibald Ross. Appointed Cadet in the Madras Army, 1843; served through the Mutiny under Sir Hope Grant in Oudh, 1853-9. Married, first, 1855, Katharine Edmondia Murat, daughter of Edmond Brooke Varne, of Florida, U.S.A.; and second, 1864, Helen Sophia, daughter of John Grove, of Ferne, Wilts. On the 5th, at Southport, aged 67, **Sir Henry Lushington Phillips, K.C.M.G.**, son of Aldcroft Phillips, of Pendleton Hall, Manchester. Called to the Bar at the Middle Temple, 1850; appointed Puisne Judge in Natal, 1858; Special Judicial Commissioner in Barbadoes, 1877; Singapore, 1878; and Cyprus, 1880. Married, 1857, Agatha, daughter of Charles Knowles, of Shrewsbury. On the 5th, at Ashbrittle, Somerset, aged 56, **Sir Henry Coster Lea Edwards**, second baronet, son of Colonel Sir Henry Edwards, C.B. Educated at Harrow and Magdalen College, Oxford. Married, first, 1872, Agnes Harcourt, daughter of Edward Rawson Clark, of Chelsea; and second, Laura Selina, daughter of John Capes Clark, of Bridgefort House, Iver, Bucks. On the 6th, at Brinkhorn, Darlington, aged 58, **Henry Fell Pease, M.P.**, son of Henry Pease, of Middleton St. George, of a well-known Quaker family, and a large ironmaster in the north. Sat as a Liberal for the Cleveland Division of Yorkshire from 1885. Married, 1863, Elizabeth, daughter of John Beaumont Pease, of North Lodge, Darlington. On the 6th, at Hursley, Hants, aged 59, **Rear-Admiral Francis Durrant, C.M.G.**, second son of Bosville Durrant, of Southover, Sussex. Entered the Navy, 1851; served in the Black Sea and Baltic during the Russian War, 1854-5; appointed Governor of Prince George of Wales when Captain of H.M.S. *Canada*, 1863-5. Married, 1877, Jessie, daughter of William Liddiard, Inverness Terrace, London. On the 6th, at Paris, aged 51, **Emil Straus**, Professor of Pathology at the Medical School, Paris. Born at Darnbach, Alsace; studied at Strasburg under Küss and Morel, and succeeded, 1888, to Dr. Vulpian's chair at Paris. On the 7th, at Bath, aged 69, **Major-General Henry William Gulliver, R.E.** Educated at Addiscombe; entered Bengal Engineers, 1845; served throughout the Scinde War, 1848-9, before Mooltan; raised 24th Punjab Pioneers, whom he commanded throughout the Indian Mutiny at the sieges of Delhi and Lucknow, and in Oudh, 1858-9. On the 7th, at University College Hospital, aged 45, **Luis Falero**, a painter of some distinction. Born at Toledo; studied at Paris, and settled in London. On the 7th, at Lössnitz, Saxony, aged 75, **Ernst Engel**, a distinguished statistician. Born at Dresden; studied there and at the School of Mines at Freiberg; appointed Secretary to the Commission on Trade and Labour in Saxony, 1848; President of the Statistical Bureau at Dresden, 1848-58, and at Berlin, 1860-82; was the author of numerous works dealing with statistics. On the 8th, at Nice, aged 87, **Thomas Hull Terrell**, son of John Terrell, of Exeter. Educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton; called to the Bar at the Inner Temple, 1835; County Court Judge, Clerkenwell, 1860-6; and Cardigan, 1866-78. Married, 1843, Margaret Louisa Jane, daughter of William a' Beckett, of London. On the 8th, at Bitterne Lodge, Southampton, aged 67, **Admiral Thomas Hutchinson Mangles Martin**, son of Admiral T. Martin, of Itonfield, Cumberland. Entered the Navy, 1842; served in the defence of Monte Video, 1846; and as Lieutenant of H.M.S. *Terrible* in

the Black Sea during the Crimean War, 1854-5. Married, 1866, Charlotte, daughter of S. H. Egginton, of North Ferriby, Yorkshire. On the 8th, at Paris, aged 76, **Louis Auguste Rogeard**, the author of "Les Propos de Labienus" (1865), the most scathing satire on Napoleon III., for which he was sentenced to fine and imprisonment after his escape to Belgium. On the 9th, at South Kensington, aged 75, **Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Edmund Yeamans Walcott Henderson, R.E., K.C.B.**, son of Admiral George Henderson, of Middle Deal, Kent. Born at Muddiford, Hants; educated at Crewekerne and the Royal Military Academy; entered the Royal Engineers, 1838; served on the New Brunswick Boundary Commission, 1846-9; Comptroller-General of Convicts in Western Australia, 1850-63; Director of Convict Prisons, England, 1864-9; Chief Commissioner of Metropolitan Police, 1869-86. Married, 1857, Maria, daughter of Rev. J. Hindle, of Higham. On the 9th, at Montpellier, aged 80, **Marquis de Montcalm**, last male descendant of the defender of Quebec. On the 10th, at Hanoi, Tongking, aged 61, **Armand Rousseau**, Governor of French Cochinchina. Born at Treflez (Finistère); educated at the Ecole Polytechnique, Paris, and for several years was Government Engineer at Brest; sat in the National Assembly, 1871-6, and in the Chamber of Deputies, 1881-5; Under-Secretary for Public Works, 1882; for the Navy, 1885; reported favourably on the possibility of the construction of the Panama Canal, 1887; appointed Governor of Tongking, 1894. On the 9th, at Rocquencourt, Versailles, aged 75, **Mme. Furtado Heine**, a great philanthropist, Cécile Charlotte, only daughter of Elie Furtado, and granddaughter of Abraham Furtado, President of the Jewish Sanhedrim convened by Napoleon I. in Paris in 1807. Married, 1840, Charles, son of Solomon Heine, the Hamburg banker, and nephew of the poet Heinrich Heine. She erected at Croisic a hospital for sick children, and founded several charitable institutions at Bordeaux, Bayonne, and Paris; worked with the ambulances during the German War, besides distributing large sums to French prisoners in Germany. On the 10th, at San Remo, aged 63, **Alfred Nobel**, a Swedish engineer. Established himself at St. Petersburg, 1866, and founded a nitro-glycerine manufactory, and invented various explosives. He left a fortune valued at 2,000,000*l.* sterling, of which the largest portion was left to recompense the benefactors of humanity: one share of the income to be given annually to the person who had made the most important invention of the year; another for the most important discovery in chemistry; a third for the like in medicine and surgery; a fourth to the author of the most important work in literature; and the fifth to the person who had done most to propagate the ideas of peace. On the 11th, at Chesham Place, London, aged 82, **Louis Charles Tennyson d'Eyncourt**, third son of Right Hon. C. Tennyson d'Eyncourt, M.P., of Bayons Manor, Lincolnshire. Educated at Westminster and King's College, London; called to the Bar at the Inner Temple, 1840; Metropolitan Police Magistrate, 1851-90. Married, 1852, Sophia, daughter of John Ashton Yates, of Dinglehead, Liverpool. On the 11th, at Ealing, aged 63, **Captain Herbert Price Knevitt, R.N.** Entered the Navy, 1847; served in the White Sea during the Russian War, 1854-5; and in the Chinese War, including the attack of the Peiho Forts, 1859, and the capture of Kah-ding, 1862. On the 12th, at Vienna, aged 76, **Count Trauttmansdorff**. On the 12th, at Regent Street, London, aged 78, **General Paget-Bayly**, son of Captain Paget-Bayly, 7th Hussars. Entered the Army, 1839; served with 38th Foot in the Crimean Campaign, 1854-5, and was twice wounded. On the 13th, at Blackheath, aged 80, **Monsignor the Hon. Gilbert Chetwynd Talbot, D.D.**, Provost of the Roman Catholic Chapter of Westminster, seventh son of second Earl Talbot, and brother of eighteenth Earl of Shrewsbury. Educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford; B.A., 1836; Fellow of All Souls, 1838; joined the Church of Rome; appointed Domestic Prelate of Pope Pius IX.; Canon of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster, and Provost. On the 14th, at Chamant, near Senlis, aged 26, **Baroness Emmanuel Leonino Rothschild**, a daughter of Baron Gustave de Rothschild. Married, 1892, Baron Emmanuel Leonino, a mining engineer. On the 14th, at Clifton Lodge, Co. Meath, aged 69, **Earl of Darnley**, John Stuart Bligh, sixth earl. Educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford; B.A., 1848. Married, 1850, Lady Harriet Mary Pelham, daughter of third Earl of Chichester. On the 15th, at Paris, aged 67, **Emile François Chatrousse**, an eminent French sculptor, the last pupil of Rude. Executed many statues for public buildings. On the 15th, at Bourges, aged 67, **Cardinal Boyes**. Born at Paray-le-Monial; Bishop of Clermont, 1878; Archbishop of Bourges, 1893; Cardinal, 1895. On the 15th, at Birmingham, aged 60, **Rev. Thomas Benson Pollock**, son of Major Pollock, 43rd Regiment. Educated at Trinity College, Dublin; B.A., 1859; successively Curate of St.

Luke's, Leek, and St. Thomas', Stansford Hill; joined his brother in pastoral and beneficent work at Birmingham, 1865, and by their efforts the Church of St. Alban the Martyr was erected, and in twenty years upwards of 100,000*l.* was raised by the two brothers Pollock for Church and school work. On the 15th, at South Kensington, aged 68, **General Henry St. Clair Wilkins, R.E.**, son of Venerable C. D. Wilkins, Archdeacon of Nottingham. Educated at Addiscombe; entered the Bombay Engineers, 1847; served in expedition against Aden Arabs, 1858; commanded Royal Engineers in the Abyssinian Campaign, 1867; devoted himself to the study of architecture, superintending the erection of many public buildings and palaces in Bombay, Poona, etc.; and the author of "Reconnoitring in Abyssinia" and other works. Married, 1856, May, daughter of General Colin Campbell M'Intyre, C.B. On the 16th, at Bovey-Tracey, aged 44, **Right Rev. George Wyndham Hamilton Knight-Bruce**, son of Lewis Bruce Knight-Bruce, of Sunbury, Middlesex. Educated at Eton and Merton College, Oxford; B.A., 1876; Vicar of St. George, Everton, 1882-3; in charge of St. Andrew's, Bethnal Green, 1884-6; Bishop of Bloemfontein, 1886-91; first Bishop of Mashonaland, 1891-5; Vicar of Bovey-Tracey and Assistant Bishop of Exeter, 1895. Married, 1878, Louisa, daughter of John Torr, M.P., of Carlett Park, Cheshire. On the 16th, at Plymouth, aged 62, **Rear-Admiral Henry M'Clintock Alexander**, son of Rev. Robert Alexander, of Blackheath, Co. Londonderry. Entered the Navy, 1848; served in the Burmese War, 1851-3; in the Baltic during the Russian War, 1854-5; in New Zealand, 1863, when he was severely wounded. Married, first, 1863, Eliza Frances Charlotte, daughter of Vice-Admiral Sir W. S. Wiseman; and second, 1878, Agnes, daughter of Captain James Hannay, of Castleroe, Coleraine, and widow of Colonel Jackson Wray. On the 17th, at Carmarthen, aged 82, **Edward Falkener**, architect and archæologist, son of Lyon Falkener, of the Ordnance Department. Gained the gold medal for architecture at the Royal Academy, 1839; travelled in Europe and the East, 1840-7; excavated the house of "M. Lucretius" at Pompeii at his own expense, 1847; was the author of several works on Greek architecture, etc., and supplied several sketches for Fergusson's "History of Architecture"; Knight of the Danneborg, etc. Married, 1866, Blanche, daughter of Benjamin Golding, M.D., the founder of Charing Cross Hospital. On the 17th, at Antibes, aged 53, **Paul Arène**, poet and novelist. Born at Sisteron (Basser Alpes); educated at the lycées of Marseilles and Vanves; his first piece, "Pierrot Heritier," was produced with success at the Odéon, 1865, and he continued to compose plays, poems, and short stories, especially relating to Provençal life and habits. On the 18th, at Frankfort, King's County, aged 102, **Mrs. Margaret Hobbs**, widow of Captain Thomas Hobbs, of the 92nd Highlanders, whose five sons and six grandsons held commissions in the Army. On the 19th, at Ennismore Gardens, London, aged 78, **Earl of Normanton**, James Charles Herbert Welbore-Ellis Agar, third Earl of Normanton. Educated at Westminster and Trinity College, Cambridge; M.A., 1841; sat as a Liberal for Wilton, 1841-51. Married, 1856, Hon. Caroline Susan Augusta, daughter of sixth Viscount Barrington. On the 19th, at Tullow, Co. Carlow, aged 89, **James Lynch, D.D.**, Roman Catholic Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin. President of St. Vincent's College, Dublin, and afterwards of the Irish College, Paris; consecrated, 1866, coadjutor to the Vicar Apostolic of West Scotland, and succeeded to the See of Kildare on the death of Dr. Walsh. On the 19th, at Torquay, aged 87, **Major-General George Borlase Tremenheere, R.E.** Educated at Addiscombe; entered the Bengal Engineers, 1826; served under Lord Gough in the first Sikh War, 1844-5, and was Senior Engineer in the second Sikh War, 1848; and was for several years Superintending Engineer in the Punjab; Secretary of the Indian Relief Fund, 1857; and as a member of the Institute of Civil Engineers received the Telford gold medal for his work in India. Married, 1844, Sarah, daughter of Rev. G. H. Hough, and widow of Capt. J. R. Lumsden. On the 21st, at Pimlico, aged 62, **Rev. J. Hiles Hitchens**, a prominent Congregationalist Minister. Born in Devon; educated at the Western College, Plymouth; ordained in 1858; was the author of several devotional and critical works. On the 21st, at Blackheath, aged 72, **Major-General Henry Thomas Richmond**, son of Captain Sylvester Richmond, of Chelsea Hospital. Entered the Army, 1841; served with 98th Regiment in China, 1843-6; in the Punjab Campaign, 1848-9; with Sir Charles Napier, 1850. Married, 1856, Esther, daughter of John Wilson, of Oakholme, Sheffield. On the 22nd, at Southsea, aged 60, **Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Ballard Gardiner, R.M.A.** Entered the Royal Marines, 1854; served through the Maori War. Married a daughter of Samuel Wilson, of Ballycloughan, Co. Antrim. On the 22nd, at Notting Hill, aged 72, **Georg von Bunsen**, fourth son of the Chevalier Christian

Karl von Bunsen, many years Prussian Minister at London. Born at Rome; educated at Bonn and Berlin; resided for some years in England; settled in Germany, 1861; sat as a Liberal in the Prussian Parliament, 1862-79, and in the North German Reichstag, 1866-70. On the 22nd, at Boughton, Northants, aged 78, **Rev. Granville Sykes Howard-Vyse**, fifth son of Lieutenant-General R. W. H. Howard-Vyse, M.P. Educated at Christ Church, Oxford; B.A., 1840; Vicar of Boughton and Pitsford, 1842-92. On the 23rd, at Castlestead, Cumberland, aged 80, **George John Johnson**, son of William Ponsonby Johnson. Educated at Harrow; entered the Coldstream Guards. Married, 1840, Frederica, daughter of Colonel Sir F. Hankey. On the 23rd, at West Dean, Sussex, aged 72, **Rev. Charles Henry Hutchinson**. Educated at Exeter College, Oxford; B.A., 1845; appointed Vicar of West Dean, 1849; an ardent supporter of manly sports, especially of cricket. On the 24th, at Oving Manor, Chichester, aged 86, **Captain Richard Stokes**, R.N. Entered the Service as a second-class Volunteer, 1825; served for several years against the Mediterranean pirates and during the Greek War; off the coast of Spain during the Carlist War, 1834-40; in China, 1841-3; at the blockade of Oporto, 1845; and in the Baltic during the Russian War, 1854-5; retired as Staff Captain, 1867. On the 24th, at St. Leonards-on-Sea, aged 83, **Major-General John Desbrisay Mein**, R.A. Educated at Sandhurst; gazetted to the Artillery, 1829; served in the Burmese War, 1852-3; and in the Indian Mutiny, 1857-8, with great distinction. On the 25th, at Fairskytes, Hornchurch, aged 87, **Joseph Fry**, the eldest surviving son of Elizabeth Fry, the philanthropist. Born at Plashet House, Essex; devoted himself to benevolent work; founded with his brother the Metropolitan Free Hospital, the Drinking Fountain Association, etc.; was for several years High Steward of the Liberty of Havering-Atte-Bower. Married, 1834, Alice, daughter of Rev. J. Partridge. On the 25th, at Westbury-on-Trym, aged 25, **Sir Francis Boileau Davis**, second baronet, only son of Sir John F. Davis, K.C.B., Governor of Hong-Kong, etc. Married, 1891, Ella, daughter of Edward Lockwood, of Chipping Norton. On the 26th, at Berlin, aged 78, **Professor Emil du Bois-Reymond**, a distinguished physiologist. Born at Berlin of French-Swiss parents; educated at the French Gymnasium and Bonn and Berlin Universities; a pupil of Joannes Müller; devoted himself at an early age to the study of animal magnetism, and joined the side of Helmholtz and Mayer in the controversy with the physiologists who affirmed the existence of a vital fluid; appointed Professor of Organic Chemistry at Berlin, 1869; and the author of several scientific and controversial works. On the 27th, at Paris, aged 59, **General Meredith Read**. Born at Philadelphia; educated at West Point, but afterwards graduated in Law; during the Civil War he reached the rank of General at the age of 23; was appointed Consul-General at Paris, 1868, and remained during the siege; was United States Minister at Athens, 1873-80. On the 29th, at Dublin, aged 88, **Sir George Bolster Owens**, M.D., son of George Owens. Licentiate, 1832; M.D. (Glasgow), 1850; Lord Mayor of Dublin, 1876. Married, 1831, Rebecca Ann Letitia, daughter of Captain William Owen, 67th Regiment. On the 29th, at Southsea, aged 86, **General Sir George Colt Langley**, K.C.B., son of John Langley, of Golding Hall, Salop. Educated at Newport Classical Academy; entered the Royal Marines, 1829; served against the Carlists in North-east Spain, 1834-6, and was severely wounded, and subsequently in the same country, 1838-40. Married, first, 1842, Frances Louisa, daughter of Captain Halliday, R.N., of Ham Lodge, Surrey; and second, 1848, Maria Catherine, daughter of John Penrice, of Wilton House, Yarmouth. On the 30th, at Mount Browne, Guildford, aged 76, **Marquess of Sligo**, George John Browne, third marquess. Educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge; appointed Honorary Colonel, 3rd Battalion Connaught Rangers, 1841. Married, first, 1847, Hon. Louisa Ellen F. A. Smythe, daughter of sixth Viscount Strangford; second, 1850, Lady Julia C. A. Nugent, daughter of ninth Earl of Westmeath; and third, 1878, Isabel, daughter of Vicomte de Peyronnet. On the 30th, at Cannes, aged 52, **Hon. Henry George Edwardes**, son of third Baron Kensington. Entered the Diplomatic Service, 1866; served in China, South America, and Eastern Europe; Secretary of Embassy at Rome, 1892. Married, 1878, Charlotte, daughter of Charles J. Bayley, C.B.

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